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A QUARTERLY OF WOMEN'S STUDIES RESOURCES



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Feminist Collections

A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources

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FROM THE EDITORS

September 2009. Summer officially ended just before this issue of *Feminist Collections* went to press. It didn't seem overwhelmingly summery this year in Madison, Wisconsin, or in my own life. First of all, we didn't have many truly hot days; in fact, I could probably count on one hand the number of times we used the air conditioning at my house. Sadly, I didn't swim even once, indoors or out, although I can't really blame the weather for that. My household didn't have a vegetable garden, because it's our first year in a new home and we hadn't finished planning where the beds will go. And I didn't take a real vacation.

On the other hand, I did manage to put a couple hundred miles on my bicycle, which at least got me outdoors on some days. I distinctly remember slapping a few mosquitoes, although it hasn't been a banner year for them. We cooked outside a few times at our house, sat on our back deck, and drank more iced than hot lattes. We and our hens were also a highlight of what has become a popular summer event in Madison — the Chicken Coop Tour. (*That day was sweltering.*)

And then, even though it wasn't a "real vacation," I did do something that millions of Americans do in the summer, despite the price of gas: interstate highway driving. In my case, it was more than 3,000 miles in my 2005 Toyota Matrix, with my trained therapy poodle in the back seat, on two weeklong trips to eastern Pennsylvania to help my very elderly parents — who, despite physical decline and dementia, continue to live by themselves in their own house on a beautifully gardened double lot. I have three living siblings, but none of us lives closer than a few hundred miles to Mom and Dad, and we all have jobs or

families of our own, or both. Still, each of us manages to spend a week or two with them every two or three months, at minimum, and the closest one has established an increasingly elaborate network of local assistance. My brothers and I, all over fifty, are part of a huge and growing demographic, that of "older" folks who are trying to care for their even older loved ones, often from a distance.



Miriam Greenwald

I don't resent and won't regret this phase of my life, which started about two years ago and will continue for as long as either of my parents — now 89 and 90 — is still alive. There are ways in which my relationship with them is better than it has ever been; and my brothers and I are communicating and working together with a level of grace I couldn't have imagined even a few years back. Being present for my parents' navigation of old-old age is joyful and meaningful even as it is heart-breaking and bewildering. It's also an enormous logistical challenge, and just plain exhausting at times, although I know of others for whom this phase must be far more so — those, for instance, who have no siblings, who live

with their parents full-time, or whose own health is not good. But whatever else this experience is, it is certainly rich.

I'd still like to go on a real vacation. Maybe that will happen in February or March — perhaps a non-family, non-work-related trip to a southern beach. Even if it doesn't, I can learn to be more creative with the situation I'm in — taking tiny vacations within a day at home or on the road, for instance, and taking more notice of the vacation moments I am already having.

I hope your summer was satisfying, whether or not it entailed what you consider "vacation." As you page through this "summer" issue of *FC*, you may find the content to be more in tune with the fall academic season:

the three feature reviews include one about the history, future, and essence of this thing called women's studies. After you've found out why Catherine Orr was "completely flummoxed" and how she responded to the text that caused her to feel that way, make sure also to read about women in the French Revolution, the workings of the International Information Centre and Archives for the Women's Movement, reference works on topics from science fiction to sex work, newly noticed websites on women and gender, and periodicals and other items of interest to scholars, students, followers, or critics of "this thing."

○ J.L.

BOOK REVIEWS

WHICH WOMEN'S STUDIES?

by Catherine M. Orr¹

Joan Wallach Scott, ed., **WOMEN'S STUDIES ON THE EDGE**. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2008. 240p. bibl. index. pap., \$22.95, ISBN 978-0822342748.

Alice E. Ginsberg, ed., **THE EVOLUTION OF WOMEN'S STUDIES: REFLECTIONS ON TRIUMPHS, CONTROVERSIES, AND CHANGE**. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008. 256p. index. \$74.95, ISBN 978-0230605794.

I received my Ph.D. and started my first academic job in women's studies in 1998. Around that time, a special issue of *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* was published, guest-edited by Joan Wallach Scott and titled "Women's Studies on the Edge."² With a freshly minted dissertation about U.S. women's studies and a mandate to deliver an undergraduate core curriculum for the new women's studies major, I was a little on edge myself — even more so given the unswerving challenges Wendy Brown outlined in that issue's most influential essay, "The Impossibility of Women's Studies." How was I qualified to produce and lead a curricular endeavor single-handedly at my little liberal arts college on the prairie, if five tenured faculty at research powerhouse UC Santa Cruz found themselves "completely stumped over the question of what a women's studies curriculum should contain"?³ Although I initially greeted Brown's essay with anxious disdain, I have come to regard it with much gratitude and respect, not because I agree with all of her assessments — I don't — but because of her willingness to call the question about the limiting potentials of our field's chosen path in 1998 — limits that persist to some extent even now.

Brown's provocative essay is reprinted in a new edition of that special issue of *differences*: a volume entitled *Women's Studies on the Edge*, one of two books about the state of women's studies that I review here, the second being Alice E. Ginsberg's anthology, *The Evolution of American Women's Studies: Reflections on Triumphs, Controversies, and Change*. These texts continue, in this new millennium, a publishing trend in women's studies that seeks to look back and assess the field more than a generation after its most promising and radical beginnings in the contemporary North American academy.

The essays in *The Evolution of American Women's Studies* do not "tak[e] for granted that the reader knows 'French Feminism,' 'modernism,' or 'post-structuralism,'" — in other words, the book is written for "people who are interested in the field but not schooled" in its theories. Ginsberg asked her contributors, all academics who have devoted their lives to women's studies, for reflective, chronological, personal essays that help to document the field's evolution through their own experiences. The result is a series of progress narratives that, together, attempt to paint the "larger picture" of the evolution of feminism and Women's Studies across time, disciplines, and identities" (p.2).

The chapters hang together fairly well, because Ginsberg asked the contributors to consider a series of fifteen questions, including the following, in their writing:

Why were you interested in getting involved in Women's Studies?

How has your definition of Women's Studies' goals and purposes changed over the years?

What is the relationship between Women's Studies and women's liberation?

What kinds of "texts" have you used over the years and what kinds of texts are you using now?

How has your work addressed differences between and among women?

What should Women's Studies be called (e.g., gender studies, feminist studies, etc.)? (pp.2–3)

Some of the book's most interesting content is generated by women's studies veterans who, although they came from the same generation and had similar career trajectories, generate very different responses to these ques-

tions. For example, Paula Rothenberg regards the trend toward naming programs and departments “gender studies” as “a dangerous and conservatising trend. It encourages us to forget the history that brought us to this point and it obscures the race, class, and gender differences that continue to shape our lives” (p.85). Making the opposite argument using an almost identical premise is Judith Lorber: “The strength of Gender Studies is that it recognizes the multiplicity of genders, sexes, and sexualities...[W]e need categories for comparison, even while we are critically deconstructing them” (p.161).

Probably the most intellectually challenging essay is by Ann Russo, who bypasses the long (and, on occasion, tediously repetitive) autobiographical approach of others and instead offers a version of women’s studies as a discipline that should “cultivate accountability”:

The recognition that our work within Women’s Studies may be complicit in, at the same time that it is resistant to, oppression dislodges a simple formulation of us/ them — oppressed/oppressor, victim/perpetrator, powerless/powerful — and moves us toward a serious analysis of the enmeshment of systems of oppression *and* systemic privilege in scholarship and teaching. (p.133; emphasis in original)

In other words, while many of the contributors in this volume speak of “inclusion” as a goal for the field, Russo reminds us that such a goal cannot go nearly far enough toward discovering,

A growing literature in the field...raises foundational concerns about the future of women’s studies based on the prescriptive power in so many narratives about its past.

engaging, and disrupting the symbolic and material “systems of power” (p.133) that undergird identity-based exclusions at every level of society.

Other satisfying artifacts in *The Evolution of American Women’s Studies* include Beverly Guy-Sheftall’s explication of and argument for her version of Black women’s studies in all its rich local and global dimensions, Nancy Naples’ rendering of women’s studies “as an interdisciplinary and praxis oriented site committed to intersectional analysis and political practice” in which she made sense of the work of “activist mothers” (p.199), and Sue Rosser’s fascinating description of the development of feminist science studies.

At the same time, some opportunities are missed, especially in the attempt to explore the “evolutions” of a forty-year endeavor from perspectives that are dominated almost completely by narratives from the founding generation of women’s studies practitioners. I understand that it makes a certain amount of sense to draw on those with the most experience. And I am not trying to grind a generational ax or make a simplistic appeal for inclusiveness. Rather, I point to a growing literature in the field that raises foundational concerns about the future of women’s studies based on the prescriptive power in so many narratives about its past. The work of Robyn Wiegman, Clare

Hemmings, Ann Braithwaite, Susanne Luhmann, and Jane Newman, to name a few, has warned against a certain nostalgia for a particular kind of past — an *interested* telling, as it were — that can creep into the stories of those “heady” times in the 1970s. The problem is not just that these renderings of women’s studies often express themselves in palpable disappointment with current practitioners’ research, administration, and politics (issues that are certainly important to raise and debate), but that too often the logic within these narratives about the field demands a return to a historical location that is not necessarily open and *accountable* (to take up Russo’s term) to all the current constituencies of women’s studies: read, women and men of color, transgender men and women, postcolonial subjects, or folks whose current research projects take up topics that don’t necessarily focus on women or even gender. Put another way, in telling some stories again and again, other stories are necessarily excluded and rendered invisible. Dissertators in recently established women’s studies Ph.D. programs, newly hired tenure-track directors or joint appointments, and in general those who have only lately decided to call women’s studies their home can tell different sorts of stories that may add fresh perspectives and much-needed counterpoints to any multi-voiced narrative of the field’s history.

Fortunately, telling some different stories about the field is exactly what the second book reviewed here takes up. Joan Scott’s project rejects an uncritical notion of progress (along with its evil twin, nostalgia) and attempts to align the field with what she calls “feminism’s most potent weapon”: critique (p.7). In this case, Scott and her contributors seek to turn “feminism’s critical edge upon itself...

[and thereby] open women's studies to different futures than were either imagined 'at the beginning' (in the 1970s and 1980s) or are envisioned now by defenders of the status quo" (p.8). Along with external forces, like the backlash against Affirmative Action, the corporatization of universities, the "political correctness" bogeyman, and the "I'm-not-a-feminist-but" crowd, women's studies has been grappling with a set of internal conflicts about its own institutionalization that has caused it, according to Scott, to "lose its critical edge" (p.6) and succumb to "blind spots that insure coherence and stability by ignoring or denying contradictions" (p.7) (think: identity politics, hierarchies of oppression, unreflective appeals to authenticity, etc.). With this text, Scott (and by extension, I would imagine, the long-time editors of *differences*, Ellen Rooney, Naomi Schor, and Elizabeth Weed) is making the case that, over the years, the journal's contribution to this assessment effort has been, shall we say, *critical*.

Those familiar with that original special issue of *differences* might well ask about the new edition, "Why bother?" We all have plenty of things gathering dust on our bookshelves waiting for a first read-through, let alone a second. And it is true that four of the eight essays from that original publication are reproduced here. However, the structure of this text transforms those original four essays — along with two additional essays from *differences* archives, two entirely new essays, and a new introduction by Scott — into a more tightly focused and organized text about a specific set of contemporary issues for the field of women's studies. So, although temporally complicated, each of the book's three sections — "Over the Edge," "Edged Out," and "Edging In" — stages an encounter, featuring, first, essays that

mark some foreboding trend or apocalyptic vision, followed by one or more rejoinders that build on, interrogate, and/or open up still further possibilities for those earlier trends and visions.

For example, in the first section, which leads with Brown's essay, Robyn Wiegman follows with "Feminism, Institutionalism, and the Idiom of Failure." Wiegman accepts Brown's basic criticisms of women's studies' paradoxical relation to its object of analysis. Brown argues that while women's studies was at one point politically and intellectually vibrant, as an institution it now "may be politically and theoretically incoherent, as well as tacitly conservative — incoherent because by definition it circumscribes uncircumscribable 'women' as its object of study, and conservative because it must resist all objections to such circumscription if it is to sustain that object of study" (p.21). As a consequence, Brown floats the old notion of "mainstreaming" women's studies, dismantling its own departments and programs and sending feminist academics back to labor in their disciplinary "homes," as a way out. Wiegman, however, wonders,

Why refuse the possibility that attention to the issues [Brown] defines will productively contribute to the redefinition, re-signification, and redeployment of the intellectual force, frame, and function of the field? If it is *women* that we must let go of, as along with Brown I believe we must, then we must also refuse the assumption that intellectual domains and their objects of study are referentially the same. (p.60)

In other words, perhaps the intellectual project of women's studies should include rethinking the premises upon which the paradox rests.

If readers have long ago come to terms with Brown's challenges, then the second section of *Women's Studies on the Edge*, which offers the book's two new and timely essays, may be of interest in that it considers, as Scott claims, "those who have been 'edged out' by the category of 'women'" (p.9). First, Saba Mahmood takes up the spate of post-9/11 autobiographical accounts of patriarchal violence penned by Muslim women (think: Azar Nafisi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, Carmen bin Ladin's *Inside the Kingdom: My Life in Saudi Arabia*, or Dutch politician Ayaan Hirsi Ali's *The Caged Virgin: An Emancipation Proclamation for Women and Islam*). These memoirs have been consumed eagerly and praised greatly by Westerners, including a number of prominent academic feminists. The problem, according to Mahmood, is that often the women who produced these discourses of Islamic patriarchy have been "handsomely rewarded by conservative political parties and think tanks internationally" (p.84). Of course, this exchange of favors takes place within the larger context of the run-up to and execution of the U.S.-led wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Interesting timing, indeed! Ultimately, Mahmood presents readers with a well-researched and well-argued account of Western feminist complicity with the Bush-Cheney agenda that should give us pause the next time the emancipation of women is foregrounded for any foreign policy initiative. She warns that "feminism runs the risk of becoming more of a handmaiden of empire in our age than a trenchant critic of the Euro-American will to power" (p.82).

Gayle Salamon's contribution to this section is "Transfeminism and the Future of Gender," which makes the somewhat ironic claim that women's studies has failed to offer a meaning-

ful account of gender, at least as it is “thought, embodied, and lived” by those who identify — *and even those who don’t identify* — as transgender. To be relevant once more, Salamon argues, women’s studies needs to be the place where emerging genders are studied. Likewise, transgender studies needs feminism, given the dominance of “a liberal individualist notion of subjectivity, in which a postgender subject possesses absolute agency and is able to craft hir gender with perfect felicity” (p.115). The most intriguing point that Salamon drives home is that references to sexuality and gender are so frequently confused, and, far too often, one “stands in” for the other. In the gay marriage debate, for example, we are bombarded with the slogan from the right that “marriage is between a man and a woman,” which, as Salamon points out, “imagines itself to be a corrective to improper *gendering* as much as to wayward sexuality” (p.122). This kind of conflation and cross-wiring goes on at all points of the political spectrum, according to Salamon. This insight then calls into question how conceptually related and politically allied the “T” is to the GLB that so often precedes it. Opportunity knocks for women’s studies.

I would be remiss in paying proper respect to *Feminist Collections* if I didn’t at least mention the final challenging entry in *Women’s Studies on the Edge*, by the University of Wisconsin–Madison’s new chancellor. In “Success and Its Failures,” Biddy Martin’s content and approach reflects her role as an academic administrator (at Cornell University in 1998) as much as it does her role as a women’s studies practitioner. She is thinking hard, not just about what women’s studies needs to “reinvigorate” itself, after, as she sees it, now “having been institutionalized on equal footing with other academic

Perhaps the intellectual project of women’s studies should include rethinking the premises upon which the paradox rests.

and administrative units” (p.169), but also about how women’s studies’ reinvigoration can affect the university as a whole:

[O]ur discussions of women’s studies need to be set in the context of larger discussions about the organization of knowledge and of learning in universities and efforts to change the forms of disciplinary and intradisciplinary balkanization that constrain our intellectual vision and prevent us from providing students a more integrated education. (p.170)

Martin’s solution for what ails women’s studies and the university at large calls for a sort of uber-interdisciplinarity that goes well beyond the usual alliances with, say, two branches of the humanities, or tentative toe-dipping into the softer of the hard sciences. Rather, Martin urges us to engage

what has been disavowed, refused, or ignored, [so that] we might unsettle what have become routine and thus impoverished practices. In addition to transforming critical practices, we need to educate ourselves about developments in technology, knowledge and administrative systems in and outside the university, suspending or deferring questions

about what they have to do with women or gender long enough to make our analysis of gender and sexuality new again and supple enough to help us intervene usefully in those developments. (p.187)

In other words, sacrilege and irreverence might prove to be our most useful — and revitalizing — tools in women’s studies and beyond. Martin concludes with an illustration of interdisciplinary exploration that can only be described as a fierce and riotous intellectual odyssey, moving from Slavoj Žižek’s “symbolically mediated” bodies and notions of “the real” to Pheng Cheah’s ideas about the potentials of Derrida’s challenges to idealist theories of power, and on to Elizabeth Wilson’s work on what she calls “neural geographies” (pp.187–195). I didn’t really get it, and, chances are, neither will you; but that is not the point. The point, for Martin, is that what lies beyond our “impoverished practices” is not going to look familiar or safe, and that embracing what we have reactively disavowed will require a radical sort of openness. The question, then, is whether women’s studies is the field that is best positioned to take up the cause. I, for one, hope so.

Taken together, *The Evolution of American Women’s Studies* and *Women’s Studies on the Edge* offer opposing perspectives on the field of women’s studies, with the former taking up the past to offer outsiders a glimpse in and the latter fiercely focused on a future that requires serious self-examination. What struck me most as I read both texts “against” each other and tracked various disagreements within each text was the importance of paying attention to *which* version of women’s studies is mobilized (or conversely “on trial”) as each author positions herself within or against it. In other words, these texts

present a wide variety of historical and theoretical locations for women's studies, along with an assortment of claims about the discipline's institutional strength or fragility, a range of declarations about the extent to which any given author feels hailed or alienated by the discipline's dominant discourses, and the scope of relevant contexts — local to global — that have an impact on the discipline. This may seem like an obvious point — of course we experience women's studies from a position that is uniquely ours — but it is surprising how infrequently that insight matters in the various arguments advanced in these works. Indeed, it is a point that many of us must put aside to make the claims we do about the discipline.

For example, at one point I was completely flummoxed by some of Salamon's claims, such as her statements that women's studies is a "discipline whose very essence depends upon the fixedness of gender" (p.117) and that "the discipline has an equally entrenched belief that identity must be a matter of privileging 'experience' as an inevitably gendered cornerstone

of feminist epistemology" (p.119). The irony of ironies, I thought, is that Salamon is writing in a *women's studies* publication edited by the feminist historian who raised the question of women's studies' uncritical use of "experience" nearly twenty years earlier. I screamed back in the margins: "I assign Brown's 'Impossibility' and Scott's 'Experience' regularly as part of my students' *women's studies* education!" How could she paint me, and by extension the entire field of women's studies, with such an uninformed and reactionary brush?

But then I had to remind myself that I screamed just as loudly in the margins of Ginsberg too, but my screams there were about several authors' assumptions about — well, the fixedness of gender and the uncritical acceptance of the "evidence of experience." Whoops! There I go: assuming that my version of women's studies is the only version out there, or the only one worth attending to. So much for Russo's "accountability."

Ultimately, my hope for future assessments of women's studies is that they — no, that *we* — acknowledge, up front, that we are situated in very different locations — institutionally, intellectually, generationally, theoretically, administratively — and thus have very different understandings, and *misunderstandings*, of the field that we are positioning ourselves within or against. Advancing our own arguments has to make room for listening to how others understand their own locations and investments in the same discipline that we claim as ours.

Notes

1. Thanks to Ann Braithwaite for her thoughtful feedback in the course of writing this review.
2. Volume 9, Number 3, Fall 1997.
3. Page 81 in the original article in *differences* (p.19 in the 2008 edition).

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Miriam Greenwald

EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN: RIGHTS, LIBERTY, AND DEVIANCE IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

by Holly Grout

Lisa Beckstrand, *DEVIANT WOMEN OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND THE RISE OF FEMINISM*. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2009. 165p. \$43.50, ISBN 978-0838641927.

Lucy Moore, *LIBERTY: THE LIVES AND TIMES OF SIX WOMEN IN REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE*. London, UK: Harper Press, 2006 [U.S. paperback edition, Harper Perennial, 2008]. 464p. pap., \$16.95, ISBN 978-0060825270.

Sophie Mousset, *WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION: A BIOGRAPHY OF OLYMPE DE GOUGES*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2007. 108p. \$32.95, ISBN 978-0765803450.

In her 1792 novel, *Le Prince philosophe*, the high-spirited feminist Olympe de Gouges boldly declared, “[I]f women are ready to back me up, it is my desire that, in future centuries, their names be seen next to that of the greatest men.”¹ Etching the names of exceptional women alongside the names of history’s “greatest men” is precisely the objective of three twenty-first-century authors who chronicle women’s participation in the French Revolution. Certainly, interest in this subject is not new. Over the last three decades, academics, biographers, and women’s historians have explored women’s political, social, and military participation in the revolution; they have assessed how the revolution transformed women’s roles within the family and within organized religion; and they have examined women’s exclusion from active citizenship despite the revolution’s promise of universal rights.² Although the books under review emerge from three separate fields of inquiry — biography, history, and literary criticism — each revisits these important themes by celebrating the ideas and actions of notable revolutionary women.

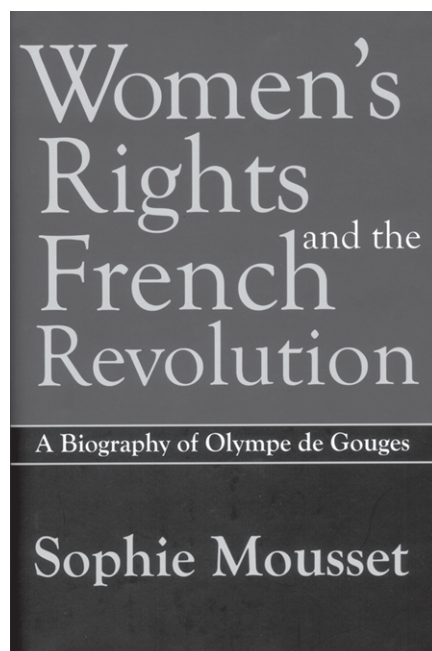
In *Women’s Rights and the French Revolution: A Biography of Olympe de Gouges*, French author and photog-

rapher Sophie Mousset commemorates the life and work of one of the revolution’s most prolific female writers and ardent advocates of human rights. Mousset argues that even though de Gouges “rightly deserves the title of pioneer, prophet, and heroine” (p.ix), her contributions to the revolution and to modern feminism have been largely ignored. Mousset’s concise biography, which is itself one of only a handful of books devoted exclusively to de Gouges, is an attempt to rescue the revolutionary activist from historical obscurity.

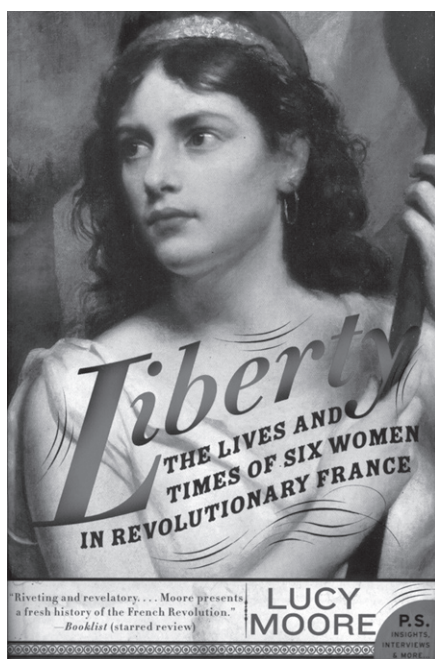
Drawing on de Gouges’ writings and a limited number of secondary works, Mousset offers a clear, chronological narrative of de Gouges’ life from her early childhood in Montauban to her execution in Paris in 1793. The book consists of four chapters. The first is devoted to de Gouges’ personal life and is peppered with fascinating tidbits about her proclivities and habits (her love of animals and her obsession with cleanliness, for example). The second chapter focuses on de Gouges’ activities in Paris and introduces readers to her fictional works. The third and, by far, most useful chapter for undergraduate teaching investigates de Gouges’ involvement in the revolution,

highlighting her activism, engaging her most important political writings, and conveying her frustrations with revolutionary politics. The centerpiece of the chapter is de Gouges’ most celebrated work, “The Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen.” A pastiche of the National Assembly’s “The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen,” de Gouges’ 1791 treatise challenged the new government’s assumption that universal rights applied only to men. Finally, Chapter 4 explores letters and editorials covering de Gouges’ experiences in the last two years of her life.

Inspired by the women of Paris who, in 1993 (the bicentennial of the Terror and of de Gouges’ execution), demanded that French authorities move de Gouges’ remains to the nation’s most hallowed necropolis, the Panthéon,³ Mousset echoes the call to venerate de Gouges alongside France’s “greatest men.” Her book is well-written, accessible to a broad audience, and rich in the reproduction of de Gouges’ writings. However, some of the book’s strengths are also its major weaknesses. Although written for a general audience, the text frequently references names and events without supplying sufficient context for understanding



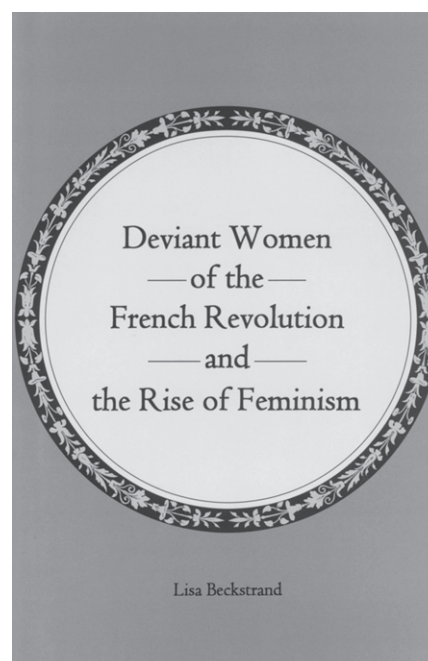
their importance. For example, when setting up the economic crisis that incited contempt for the king, she mentions Jacques Necker's "restrictive policies," but fails to explain what they were or even to identify Necker as the king's finance minister (p.22). Furthermore, she does not carefully date events, and this deficiency makes it difficult for readers to follow her otherwise straightforward chronology. Stu-



dents will appreciate the reproduction of large excerpts from de Gouges' writings; however, it is disappointing that Mousset offers them with no analysis and little contextualization. Significantly, this lack of critical commentary, along with Mousset's tendency to romanticize de Gouges as "our heroine" (p.14), suggests that the author may be a bit blinded by her own feminist agenda and that the field of women's history within contemporary France continues to encourage triumphalist narratives of women's lives.⁴ Reminiscent of the "her-story" narratives authored by American feminists in the 1970s and 1980s, Mousset's biography rightly asserts the centrality of woman to the historical canon. But like earlier her-story authors, Mousset too reads woman's experiences in isolation and offers an overly optimistic interpretation of de Gouges.

Olympe de Gouges plays only a minor supporting role in Lucy Moore's history, *Liberty: The Lives and Times of Six Women in Revolutionary France*. Rather than read women into the history of that period, Moore interprets the revolution through the experiences of six women who "illuminate different aspects of the period" (p.xxvii). Importantly, these women represent different classes, age groups, political viewpoints, and levels of involvement in revolutionary activity. Although the narrative progresses chronologically from May 1789 to April 1811, each of the book's nineteen chapters recounts primarily the individual experiences of just one of the women under investigation. At least three non-consecutive chapters are devoted to each of the six featured women: the aristocratic centrist and twenty-something novelist Germaine de Staël; the eighteen-year-old socialite and Jacobin Thérésia de Fortenay; the thirty-seven-year-old Manon Roland, Girondin wife of a civil servant; the *sans-culotte* activist and

agitator Pauline Léon; the rehabilitated courtesan Théroigne de Méricourt; and the virtuous middle-class schoolgirl Madame Récamier (née Juliette Bernard). Moore's chapter titles connote each woman's changing position in revolutionary society; for example, Manon Roland is Chapter 5's "Républicaine," Chapter 8's "Femme Politique," Chapter 11's "Prisonnière," and chapter 13's "Victime." Moore relies on this system of labels to demonstrate the myriad ways that women participated in and



"were each transformed by their experiences during the revolution" (p. xxvii).

Like Mousset, Moore draws on a rich collection of primary source materials: novels, memoirs, letters, and newspaper accounts. She also relies, however, on secondary scholarship, which enables her to craft a more synthetic and comprehensive account of women's experiences.

Moore cleverly charts the trajectory of the revolution through the personal histories and revolutionary activities of her subjects. In different ways, each woman took advantage of the opportunities that the revolution

offered. The well-connected daughter of Jacques Necker, Germaine de Staël, promoted her political interests by gathering France's most important politicians in her salons; she saved the lives of many of her aristocratic friends by cultivating personal relationships with revolutionary leaders. During the Girondin or moderate phase of the revolution, Manon Roland used her influence over her husband, secretly authoring his official correspondences and using the guise of domesticity to eavesdrop on his professional meetings, to forward her own political agenda. Théroigne de Méricourt "renounce[d] her life as a kept woman" (p. 50) and reinvented herself as an outspoken advocate of universal rights. She eagerly joined the March on Versailles in 1789, attended meetings of the National Assembly daily, taught provincial children to sing revolutionary songs, spoke at Jacobin Clubs, and, dressed entirely in male garb, subverted paternal authority at every turn. As the revolution radicalized, so too did the activities of Pauline Léon and her comrades in the Society of Revolutionary Republican Women. Although initially less engaged in politics, both Thérésia de Fortenay and Madame Récamier benefitted from their connections to prominent male figures; both would emerge as *femme célèbres* during the Directory.

The fascinating stories of these women and Moore's lucid prose make *Liberty* an engrossing read. The addition of user-friendly maps, illustrations, and appendices that include a list of secondary figures and a translation of important words and phrases make the book accessible to readers unfamiliar with the French Revolution. The greatest strength of the work is Moore's ability to weave together the lives and

experiences of six radically different women and to read the revolution through their eyes — in short, to elevate the experiences of these women to those of the experiences of the "greatest men."

Moore crafts an engaging narrative, but undergraduates are likely to find it difficult to follow. For example, each chapter focuses on one woman, but because the text is chronological, other women are often mentioned, so it is difficult to keep all of the individual stories straight. Instructors will appreciate the detailed accounts of each woman's experiences and may excerpt them for lectures on women in the revolution; however, they will be disappointed by the work's reliance on older scholarship (only 21 of the 130 secondary sources cited were published after 1990) and by its lack of theoretical rigor.

The greatest weakness of this book is that, despite compelling evidence, Moore does not attempt a gender analysis of the revolution; nor does she systematically question the relationship between women and rights with which her subjects so passionately grappled. Although she is attentive to the historical context of her subjects, Moore, like Mousset, is more interested in celebrating the lives of exceptional women than in critically evaluating their contributions to the revolution.

The most recent of the books under review, Lisa Beckstrand's *Deviant Women of the French Revolution and the Rise of Feminism*, offers a close textual analysis of the writings of Olympe de Gouges and Manon Roland. Intended for an academic audience, Beckstrand's theoretically informed work examines how eighteenth-century theories of female nature "focused on the female body as the locus of women's intellec-

tual inadequacies and promulgated the idea that women who acted outside the confines of their physiological nature were desensitized, unfeminine, and ultimately deviant" (p.11). De Gouges and Roland challenged these prevailing views of female nature and used their writing to influence public opinion — activities that distinguished them from other women and made them worthy of remembrance alongside history's "greatest men."

Although the first two chapters contextualize these women among other female revolutionaries and frame their ideas within eighteenth-century scientific and medical discourses of femininity and deviance, the focus of Beckstrand's book is on the textual strategies that de Gouges and Roland used to challenge gender norms. In Chapters 3–7, Beckstrand explores each woman's writings (de Gouges' plays, novels, and political works; Roland's correspondence and personal journals) to show how both women used writing to construct themselves as autonomous subjects. Despite their shared objectives however, each writer employed vastly different strategies in her textual self-creation. The brazenly independent de Gouges openly challenged gender norms and launched what Beckstrand calls a "self-conscious feminist movement" (p.11), while the seemingly deferential Roland wrote under the cover of domesticity to subvert the feminine ideal by portraying herself as the epitome of it. Careful analysis of these strategies provides, according to Beckstrand, "a better understanding of the ideological shifts concerning gender ideology during the late eighteenth century" and reveals how these women shaped "the ideology that informed the Revolution" (p.14).

Beckstrand offers a fresh and sophisticated interpretation of the works of de Gouges and Roland. Her critical analysis of primary source material is convincing and beautifully argued. Especially illuminating are the comparisons she draws between de Gouges' and Roland's texts and works penned by their male contemporaries: Manon used Rousseau's autobiographical writing to compose her own (pp.50–51), and de Gouges' "Declaration" mimics the National Assembly's document (Chapter 5). By juxtaposing these texts, Beckstrand brilliantly demonstrates how these women engaged ideas about gender and nature as they evolved within liberal politics. Undergraduates in literature departments will find these comparisons particularly beneficial because they illustrate the rich possibilities opened up through careful textual analysis. Students of women's studies and history will appreciate them because they gesture to broader themes and trends in the evolution of eighteenth-century gender ideology.

These strengths notwithstanding, analytical problems arise when Beckstrand attempts to assign motive to the authors (for example, claiming that Roland *had* to position herself within domestic ideology to prove her innocence and save herself from the guillotine) and when she attempts to read these women against twentieth-century feminists and theorists (i.e. Hélène Cixous and Edward Said). These problems speak to the fundamental weakness of Beckstrand's text: she takes many analytical leaps that threaten to undermine her sharp textual discussions. For example, her discussions of historical significance fall flat because rather than use her compelling textual analysis to problematize women's historical relevance, she plugs in fragments of information culled from secondary sources. In fact, the first two chapters

of the book could easily be condensed and worked into the succinct introduction. Finally, Beckstrand's last chapter title promises to explore de Gouges' and Roland's "legacies for the twenty-first century," yet the bulk of the chapter recounts each woman's trial and execution; only two brief paragraphs are allotted to feminism in the twenty-first century. Given the recent flurry of academic publications devoted to French Parity Law and to questions of female citizenship, Beckstrand could make a convincing case for Roland and de Gouges as predecessors to contemporary feminism.⁵ Instead, eager to venerate her subjects, she ultimately marshals too little evidence to make that connection successfully.

Despite their tendency toward triumphalism, all of these books draw attention to some of the French Revolution's most prolific but overlooked female participants and thus make important contributions to the field of women's history and to the history of the revolution. All three would be appropriate additions to undergraduate courses in history, women's studies, and literature; however, each would serve a different purpose. Mousset's biography of Olympe de Gouges could be assigned in its entirety, whereas Moore's and Beckstrand's work would be more effective as excerpts or integrated into lecture material. Individually these books celebrate the achievements of revolutionary women; collectively they answer de Gouges' call to position the names of exceptional women alongside those of history's "greatest men."

Notes

1. Cited in Sophie Mousset, *Women's Rights and the French Revolution: A Biography of Olympe De Gouges* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2007), p.49.

2. Examples include Suzanne Desan, *The Family on Trial in Revolutionary France* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004); Olwen Hufton, *Women and the Limits of Citizenship in the French Revolution* (University of Toronto Press, 1992); Lynn Hunt, *The Family Romance of the French Revolution* (New York: Routledge, 1992); Joan B. Landes, *Women and the Public Sphere in the Age of the French Revolution* (New York: Cornell University Press, 1988); and Joan W. Scott, "French Feminists and the Rights of 'Man': Olympe de Gouges' Declarations," *History Workshop Journal* v. 28, no. 1 (1989), pp.1–21.

3. Because de Gouges is buried in a communal grave, moving her remains to the Panthéon would be impossible; however, an interment ceremony would have important symbolic implications. In 2007, presidential candidate Ségolène Royal again requested that de Gouges' remains be moved.

4. Françoise Thébaud, "Writing Women's and Gender History in France: A National Narrative?" *Journal of Women's History*, v. 19, no. 1 (Spring 2007), pp.167–172.

5. Lynn Hunt, *Inventing Human Rights: A History* (New York: Norton & Co., 2007); and Joan W. Scott, *Parité: Sexual Difference and the Crisis of French Universalism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005).

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PROFESSIONAL READING

COLLECTING, PRESERVING, AND SHARING WOMEN'S HISTORY

by Phyllis Holman Weisbard

Saskia E. Wieringa, ed., *TRAVELING HERITAGES: NEW PERSPECTIVES ON COLLECTING, PRESERVING AND SHARING WOMEN'S HISTORY*. Amsterdam: Aksant Academic Publishers, 2008. 307p. bibl. ill. \$34.95, ISBN 978-9052602998.

"Paper, to some extent, is patient, but bits and bytes are not" (p.42).

How does an archivist deal with material that is "born digital"? That's just one of the many contemporary issues discussed in this volume of essays, which was generated by a day-long seventieth-birthday celebration and seminar at the International Information Centre and Archives for the Women's Movement (IIAV) and edited by the IIAV's director. The title *Traveling Heritages* is meant to convey movement — the migration histories (physical and mental) both of the donors and visitors to the IIAV and of the shifting "truth claims and concepts" whose heritage(s) and views of history are sought and preserved. The essays focus on practices, projects, and ongoing challenges of the IIAV in particular, but they are generalizable to any archive. This book should definitely be consulted by archivists, historians, librarians, and others concerned with the record of women's lives and endeavors, both past and present, because choices made today will determine what future generations have at their disposal.

The IIAV's interesting and dramatic history is outlined by Francisca de Haan and Annette Mevis in the first chapter, from the founding of the organization in 1935 by Jewish activist Rosa Manus and colleagues, through her deportation and murder by the Nazis and the expropriation and removal to Germany of her papers and those of others (where they were presumed

lost), to the miraculous discovery of the papers in Russia in 1992 and their return to the archive in 2003. The IIAV has a dual mission — to be "both a repository for historical material and a dynamic, activist organization working to ensure that answers to questions about women's history and the position of women in society are available and accessible" (<http://www.iiav.nl/eng/iiav/index.html>) — and is actively engaged in exploring how to meet (or perhaps adjust?) that historical and contemporary mission in the twenty-first century.¹

The other essays in the first part of the volume focus on history. Chapter 2 takes up the legacy of colonialism as seen from the vantage point of Susan Legêne, a long-term curator in the Tropenmuseum, who describes both a negative example of de-contextualized Korean clothing pieces and a recent well-thought-out project that focused on the unique culture (especially in songs) of people originally from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, India, who migrated first to (then Dutch-owned) Suriname and later to the Netherlands. Legêne asks for more projects like that one, which connects personal memories to a collective history through what are sometimes intangibles — "language, songs, poetry, lifestyle, photographs, musical principles, recipes and systems of knowledge" (p.61).

Another chapter explains why there is so little documented yet on feminism and women's movements in Eastern Europe, highlighting in particular the fact that the movements are tainted by association with either the Communist past or Western foreign domination or both. The author, Francisca de Haan, calls for more projects like the *Biographical Dictionary of Women's Movements and Feminisms: Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe, Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* (which she co-edited), for a regional database directory of women's archival resources, and for more digitization of primary sources, including the reports of congresses of international women's organizations. In a subsequent essay in the volume, Tilly Vriend of the IIAV mentions the reports as a category under consideration for digitization.

Vriend's contribution, devoted to new media, is in the second part of the book. She describes how the IIAV has embraced electronic resources and moved beyond physical collecting. As she says, "A digital library is not simply a digital copy of its physical collection" (p.112). To my mind, one of the most useful e-projects the IIAV has undertaken is to capture and store, electronically, issues of women's newsletters, magazines, and other online

periodicals. (To date, some 606 titles are included. See <http://www.iiav.nl/scripts/wwwopac.exe?&DATABASE=digitaaltdyschriften&Pe=x&SRT1=ti&LANGUAGE=0>.) Although there are important digital serial preservation projects afoot in the U.S., such as LOCKSS and Portico, their focus is on academic journals. The IIAV project is unique in covering women's grassroots publications. Another novel and proactive IIAV project mentioned by Vriend, and described in more detail in a later chapter by Kloosterman, is the development of high-school curricula on women's history and women's issues using gaming technology.

The importance of visual material is tackled in two essays. Anna Honigh uses a case study of a single photograph of two Dutch women oyster-industry workers, from among the IIAV's 20,000 images, as a springboard to discuss what goes into analyzing visual material from a feminist perspective. Grietje Keller and Josien Pieterse describe their videographic process in interviewing Dutch leaders of Second Wave feminism. They see the camera as an ally in recording women's life histories instead of as an obtrusive barrier.

Not all articles are about the IIAV or Dutch women's resources. Antonia Byatt covers media projects in the Women's Library in London. In conjunction with the British Library, the Women's Library archives periodic snapshots of women's organizations' websites (to see what's been archived thus far, search for "women" or "feminis*" at <http://www.webarchive.org.uk>). Another project addressed the lives of individuals. A combination of oral history interviews and photographs has documented the lives of women living in the ethnically diverse (older Jewish, newer Bangladeshi and Somali) neighborhood surrounding the Women's Library. But Byatt takes issue

with those who say that immigrants are best engaged by exhibits when they can see themselves reflected in the displays. She notes that first-generation Bangladeshi women were very stimulated by an exhibit at the Women's Library that featured British suffrage banners made with embroidery and appliqué; some made their own banners in response.

The third section of the book, "Identity, Citizenship, and Archives," includes two essays on immigrant and multicultural issues, plus chapters on creating a pan-European feminist forum, an oral history of the Second Wave video project, academic feminism, nationalism, and the high-school curriculum project mentioned above. In any book of this type that concentrates on one institution, there is bound to be some overlap in content from essay to essay, and by this third section it is quite apparent. Rosa Manus has come up in several chapters, as have the importance of visuals, the need to expand collecting to more than "white women's history," particularly for immigrant women, without "othering" them, and references to online developments. This is not much of a burden to the reader, as such interrelationships are inevitable and the emphasis changes. Some readers may simply want to browse through the numerous striking photographs throughout the volume. Many are likely to pick and choose from among the chapters rather than read straight through. Archivists wishing to document the lives of minority women should read Marjet Douze and Twie Tjoa's description of the successful collaboration between the IIAV and three immigrant organizations in creating an interactive website ("Her History" <http://www.haargeschiedenis.nl>) that features the results of archival research and oral history.

Editors of feminist periodicals will want to absorb writer Manu Bühling's take on the feminist magazine as an empowerment tool — and perhaps nothing else in the volume. She writes from her experience as a writer for the Dutch periodical *Lover* (Dutch for *foliage* and also a shortened form of *literatuuroverzicht*, meaning a list of recent publications), which the IIAV publishes. Young Dutch women today do not identify as feminists or with the feminist tradition, Bühling says. This is an all-too-familiar complaint in feminist circles outside the Netherlands as well. But maybe the *Lover* editorial board's decision to put feminism literally "undercover" will be a useful one to others — they removed "feminism" from the magazine's cover, although the orientation of the magazine hasn't changed. Secondary school teachers and others interested in how and what is transmitted as history can glean insights both from the Kloosterman article on the IIAV's work in secondary education and from Maria Grever's closing essay, in which she interrogates the teaching of national canons and offers instead a framework from a global perspective, "based on crucial turning points in history that includes the national history of the country that students live in" (p.299).

The volume does not necessarily "need" the article by Clare Hemmings on academic feminism; it does not relate very directly to the work of "collecting, preserving, and sharing women's history," and from the perspective of North American readers, it rehashes two shopworn debates among women's studies scholars: autonomous women's studies departments versus integration of feminist research into all parts of the curriculum, and women's studies versus gender and sexuality studies. However, her examples from Europe and elsewhere cast a different light on the issues and make for an interesting

read. For example, she mentions the influence of external funding sources, including equal opportunity agencies in Spain and Finland and international support for thirty-two independent women's studies centers in India. And the debate between "women" and "gender" plays out differently based on language — she cites Finnish, where "woman" already has multiple meanings, both biological and cultural" (p.276).

Some interesting funding sources are mentioned but not particularly elaborated on in various chapters. I was already aware that the Women's Library in London received several million pounds (£4.2 million to be exact) from the Heritage Lottery Fund to purchase a site for its library. But I was unaware that Ted Turner funded an international information-sharing project, headquartered at the IIAV, that reported on the results of the Beijing Platform for Action from the Fourth U.N. World Conference on Women (p.139). Why Ted Turner? Not explained in Lin McDevitt-Pugh's otherwise excellent overview of the IIAV's international work. A Web search reveals the likely connection: media mogul Turner is founder and chair of the United Nations Foundation. "We connect people,

ideas and resources to help the United Nations solve global problems," states the Foundation's website (<http://www.unfoundation.org/>).

Another funder that caught my eye: "Mama Cash" — which I must admit I first misread as "Mama Cass," perplexing though that was, since the lead singer of The Mamas and the Papas died in 1974. According to Marjet Douze and Twie Tjoe's chapter on the cultural heritage of women in multicultural Dutch society, Mama Cash was one of the funders of the launching of a website that provided a portrait of the cultural heritage of three immigrant groups to the Netherlands: Surinamese, Moroccan, and Dutch East Indian (p.204). Later in the volume, Gisela Dütting and Joanna Semeniuk refer to Mama Cash as an international women's fund, based in the Netherlands, that hosted a 2004 meeting of European feminist activists that resulted in the European Feminist Forum (an organization structured by "affinity groups" that cross national boundaries).

Traveling Heritages is very well edited. Were one not aware that English is not the first language of most of the contributors, their essays would not betray them; the English is idiomatic and flowing. The book is well worth acquiring

for any individual or library with interests in women's history, migration, Dutch women, the application of new media to old and new resources, and the meanings of feminism today.

Note

1. After the book appeared and this review was written, the IIAV has done just that, through a name change to **Aletta: Institute for Women's History**, new URL (<http://www.aletta.nu/aletta/eng>, for the English language version), and sharpened mission statement: "Aletta's mission is to share knowledge and information about women's history and women's position in society as widely as possible. We also work to expand this body of knowledge and to promote further research about women and women's history. This is how Aletta contributes to securing women's rights and empowering all women." <http://www.aletta.nu/aletta/content/62553/mision_and_core_objectives>, accessed September 18, 2009.

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Miriam Greenwald

E-SOURCES ON WOMEN AND GENDER

The **SLOAN WORK AND FAMILY RESEARCH NETWORK** at Boston College (<http://wfnetwork.bc.edu>) specializes in the interaction between the workplace and families, and offers resources for audiences that include researching students, academics, policymakers, “workplace practitioners,” journalists, and individuals trying to navigate the give-and-take of family and work in their own lives. Included on the site is a “topic page” called *Gender and Use of Workplace Policies*, compiled by Sarah Morrison and Christina Matz-Costa (<http://wfnetwork.bc.edu/topic.php?id=28>), which focuses on how the use of family-focused workplace policies and programs is affected by gender, parental and household roles, and perceptions of what it means to be a “good worker.” Morrison and Matz-Costa include links to relevant statistics, Sloan-sponsored studies, and written interviews from the Sloan site, as well as resources for teachers and trainers and a list of suggested readings. Audio and video resources are also presented.

With an advisory board made up of women from Africa, India, and South America, the **GENDER CC** website (<http://www.gendercc.net>) is a “response to the growing public attention to climate change, and the increasing need for information about women’s perspectives and gender aspects in climate change policies and measures.” The site serves as a platform for organizations and experts on gender and climate change worldwide to come together and share knowledge and resources, as well as a place for those who wish to become involved to find information and take action on climate issues such as agriculture, energy, health, migration, tourism, and transport, among others. There are links to case studies and further reading, as well as UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) conferences and statistics.

Those looking for professional women’s organizations in technology should consult the resource-rich **WOMENTECHWORLD** at <http://www.womentechworld.org>. The site describes itself as “the national on-line home for women technicians to connect with each other” and includes everyone from computer engineers and software designers to tool makers and construction managers, and beyond. There are stories and photos of women technicians listed by occupation, as well as community-building resources and career mentoring. The

Career Center Links (<http://www.womentechworld.org/links.htm>) include lists of websites for women, minorities, and girls in technology, along with a selection of listservs.

The busy but useful **ASKPATTY** site (<http://www.askpatty.com/>) provides a wealth of automotive advice directed at women who may find themselves lost in the male-dominated and often intimidating world of car buying and maintenance. The site’s CEO, Patty DeVere, currently the president of the Women’s Automotive Association International, strives to provide a safe environment in which women can ask any questions they may have about their cars. AskPatty includes a “Certified Female Friendly Location Search” for dealers, service centers, and tire centers, as well as ratings and recommendations. There are also podcasts, a blog, and resources about insurance and new car purchases.

At the American Library Association’s 2009 conference in Chicago, the program for the Women’s Studies Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries was on “Gaming, Film, and Ephemera: Women’s Studies and Academic Collections.” A **BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WEB SOURCES ON WOMEN AND GAMING**, compiled by Anne Odom, was given out at the program and is available on the Web in both pdf (<http://libr.org/wss/conferences/2009programGamingBibliography.pdf>) and html (<http://libr.org/wss/conferences/2009programGamingBibliography.html>) formats. This short bibliography includes mainstream sites for women and lesbian gamers, as well as more specialized resources for statistics about gender in gaming and the status of women and minorities in the gaming industry.

The mission of the **BRAVE NEW FOUNDATION** (<http://www.bravenewfoundation.org>) is “to champion social justice issues by using media to inspire, empower, motivate and teach civic participation that makes a difference.” The foundation has released the fifth part of *Rethink Afghanistan* (<http://rethinkafghanistan.com>), a documentary on the American war in Afghanistan. Part V, “Women of Afghanistan” (available along with Parts I–IV and a new Part VI at <http://rethinkafghanistan.com/videos.php>) focuses on the toll of war on Afghani women, highlighting how the U.S. military efforts and occupation have not “liberated” the

burqa-clad women featured in so many pre-war newscasts, but have actually taken a disproportionately negative toll on their lives. The eleven-minute segment describes the history of American involvement in the country and explains how that history has led to oppression that is in many cases worse than that of women under the Taliban. The streaming video includes interviews with Afghani women from the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) and the Afghan Women's Network. (Also of note: the complete documentary will be available on DVD in October 2009.)

BATTERED WOMEN'S PROTECTIVE STRATEGIES, by Sherry Hambly and contributor Andrea

Bible, is a thirteen-page paper that takes "a holistic approach to understand battered women's protective strategies, reviewing a wide range of strategies used by women to cope with numerous threats posed by battering, not just the threat of bodily harm." At <http://new.vawnet.org/category/Documents.php?docid=1872>, Hambly writes about the many "invisible" strategies women in abusive situations employ to protect not only their bodies, but their children, their emotional well-being, and their dreams and aspirations. The document is also available in pdf (http://new.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/AR_BWProtStrat.pdf) and html (http://new.vawnet.org/category/Main_Doc.php?docid=1872) formats.



Miriam Greenwald

Magazine covers from the tabloids to *Time* force us to ask ourselves, **IS SEEING BELIEVING?** This site (<http://www.frankwbaker.com/isbmag.htm>) shows that the answer is no, or at least that it should be. It provides examples and explanations of recent airbrushing and digital alteration scandals, from singer Kelly Clarkson's weight on the cover of *Self Magazine* to the lightening of Beyonce's skin in L'Oreal ads, and beyond. The site also provides links to a *New York Times* story on the retouching done for magazines, and an ABC photo slideshow of doctored covers.

"The **GLOBAL MEDIA MONITORING PROJECT** is the largest and longest longitudinal study

on the representation of women in the world's media. It is also the largest advocacy initiative in the world on changing the representation of women in the media. It is unique in involving participants ranging from grassroots community organizations to university students and researchers to media practitioners." The World Association for Christian Communication's (WACC) "**WHO MAKES THE NEWS?**" website at <http://www.whomakesthenews.org> provides a background of the GMMP meetings held in 1995, 2000, and 2005, as well as access to the reports produced from each one. The next meeting will take place in November of 2009.

○ Compiled by Elzbieta Beck

NEW REFERENCE WORKS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

AMERICAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

Nancy MacLean, *THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT, 1945–2000: A BRIEF HISTORY WITH DOCUMENTS*. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009. 198p. bibl. index. pap., \$14.95, ISBN 978-0312448011.

Reviewed by Carrie A.L. Nelson

As a window into the evolving status of women in the second half of the twentieth century, this "brief history with documents" is a remarkable achievement. In fewer than 200 pages, MacLean draws readers into the stories of this era and reveals the diversity and intensity of the controversies associated with the women's movement.

This book, part of the Bedford Series in History and Culture, is not a traditional reference source to be used to answer a specific question, locate a key document, or learn about all the critical events and people of this time. Rather, it is meant to be a supplement to more comprehensive resources.

In the introductory section, MacLean provides a context for the documents that follow, with sweeping descriptions of historical phases and their resulting impact on women: the Red Scare, post-war economic pressures in various cultural communities, civil rights organizing, and the Civil Rights Act. She artfully conveys the relationship between the growing women's movement and an increasing cultural openness about sex and sexuality, the rising voice of the gay community, and the spread of information about women's health.

The documents make up about two-thirds of the book. Some are to be expected in this type of compilation: prominent organizational purpose statements, as well as essays by opponents of the movement. Most of the documents, however, are less familiar and somehow more evocative. They provide an almost intimate view of the lives of women throughout this era and will be meaningful to readers new to this story as well as to those for whom powerful memories will be triggered.

Unfortunately, not every document included adds value to the text. Some of the materials that represent particular subgroups make unique statements and tell parts of the story that might otherwise be unheard; but the set of readings from Chicanas (1971), Socialists (1972), Black Feminists (1974), Christian Feminists (1976), more radical Black Feminists (1977), Asian Pacific American Women (1979), and South Asian Women (1989) begins to feel like an attempt at token representation rather than a meaningful addition to the reader's understanding.

As do many of the other documents, the final one, "A Day Without Feminism," by Jennifer Baumgartner and Amy Richards (2000), communicates a powerful message in simple terms. It is from a pair of women, both born in 1970, who imagine what their lives would be like if the status of women had frozen in the year of their birth. In this case, MacLean's choice emphasizes the qualities that make the entire text so successful: both this selection and the book as a whole convey intensely significant and sweeping

changes over time, with a personal tone and simple eloquence.

The ten "questions for consideration" at the end of the book might generate useful discussion in the context of a course, but are too simplistic for this broad, although brief, history. That format might be more useful for some of the other, more narrowly focused titles in the Bedford Series. The book's detailed index and chronology will help readers interested in particular names or events to find related documents within the volume.

[Carrie A.L. Nelson is an academic librarian at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and holds a master's degree in American civilization from the University of Pennsylvania.]

ARAB WOMEN WRITERS

Radwa Ashour, Ferial J. Ghazoul, & Hasna Reda-Mekdashy, eds. (trans. by Mandy McClure), *ARAB WOMEN WRITERS: A CRITICAL REFERENCE GUIDE, 1873–1999*. Cairo, Egypt: American University in Cairo Press, 2008. 526p. \$59.50, ISBN 978-9774161469.

Reviewed by Leigh Younce

It is not widely known that Arab women have been writing and publishing since well before World War I. In fact, one of the most distinguished poets to appear before or during the emergence of Islam was Al-Khansa,

who was born in the seventh century C.E. into a noble and powerful family famous for its heroism in battle, its expressiveness in language, and its talent for writing poetry. In the centuries that followed, numerous female writers emerged as novelists, journalists and poets. These women were pioneers in the effort to "escape the bonds of the enclosed home and enter the public sphere" (p.4).

This guide does not focus on women's liberation or the Arab women's movement; rather, it is "an effort to delineate the literary output of Arab women in the modern period, from the last two decades of the nineteenth century to the end of the twentieth century" (p.4). The essays cover the progression of Arab women's writing over the past 120 years in specific geographical areas, including Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, Palestine and Jordan, Arab North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, and Yemen. Each essay is comprehensive, offering valuable historical background about each country in the respective area. This information was helpful in understanding why in countries like Yemen, Arab women writers emerged later in the twentieth century. Each essay chronicles writers from the founding generations to the appearance of the novel, poetry, short story, drama, autobiography, and fiction.

An additional feature of this guide is a set of extensive bibliographies of works by Arab women in English, French and Arabic. These include the writings of twelve hundred authors from the last third of the nineteenth century through 1999 (p.11).

A guide to contemporary Arab women writers is hard to come by. The progression of these women in modern literature was enlightening. Although the purpose of this work was not to

focus on women's liberation or the Arab women's movement, it is obvious that Arab women would not have contributed to literature without a push for the rights of women and a fight for their education. As a women's studies librarian, I treasure this guide as a reference tool, both for myself and for the students and faculty whose research is focused on Arab women's contributions to literature.

[Leigh Younce is an instruction/reference librarian at Auburn University and serves as the women's studies liaison.]

GENDER

Jodi O'Brien, ed., *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GENDER AND SOCIETY*. Los Angeles: Sage, 2009. 2 vols. 976p. index. \$350.00, ISBN 978-1412909167.

Reviewed by Rita K. Roemer

Gender made the news when Hillary Clinton ran for Democratic nominee in the 2008 U.S. presidential election. However, the only mention of her in the 2009 *Encyclopedia of Gender and Society* is a single sentence in the article "National Women's Political Caucus" (v.2, p.600; the NWPC endorsed her candidacy).

My initial foray into this set led to an immediate discovery. As a lay reader of gender studies, I was under the mistaken assumption that gender only became a prominent societal issue on rare and unique occasions (like the Clinton example above). However, as editor Jodi O'Brien explains in her introduction, "gender is everywhere and influences every aspect of society" (p. xxix). Delving into this set opened my eyes to the pervasive role gender plays in all of our lives and has played globally throughout time.

The *Encyclopedia of Gender and Society* provides several routes for research. The index is very complete — excellent for finding short answers to specific topics. Articles range from *ABANTU for Development* to *Yin Yang*. ("Abantu" means "people" in several African languages; this organization was founded by African women in London). The shorter articles provide the straightforward, factual type of information one would expect to find in such a source.

Indepth study is aided by a reader's guide that lists fourteen broad subject categories citing all the articles relevant to each category. A list of further readings at the end of each article provides a key to additional sources of information (articles, books and even websites if available). *See also* references at the end of each entry lead from one article to several others to create a good overview of a topic. For instance, the article on Wonder Woman referred to other articles, such as "Media and Gender Stereotypes," "Rosie the Riveter," and "Superheroes," from which I gained some insight into gender symbols and media cultural influences.

This encyclopedia has amazing breadth as well as depth. Scope is worldwide, covering gender issues in Africa, China, India, the Middle East, and other areas as well as the traditional Western focus. Longer articles called "framing essays" delve into the research and social aspects of those topics. A few of these indepth entries, such as "Media and Gender Socialization," went too deep for me; I had some difficulty understanding it all. Then again, I am not an expert in gender studies.

Overall and most importantly, the articles made me think, and I found them very accessible to a lay reader. In addition, they shook up my perspective on what I thought I knew. For in-

stance, the entry “Children’s Literature, Gender Images In” presented a different view of several books I had either read myself or read aloud to children.

The *Encyclopedia of Gender and Society* provides a wealth of current information on society through the “gender lens” (p. xxix), in a manner conducive to exploring and learning.

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LGBT STUDIES

Deborah T. Meem, Michelle A. Gibson, & Jonathan F. Alexander, ***FINDING OUT: AN INTRODUCTION TO LGBT STUDIES***. Los Angeles: Sage Publications, 2010. 462p. \$48.95, ISBN 978-1412938655.

Reviewed by Kari D. Weaver

Given the current societal attention to and debate over issues of the LGBT community, this book has arrived at an opportune time. Billed as a textbook, *Finding Out* is clearly aimed at undergraduates and their instructors, but it may be most useful as a reference work in the majority of academic library collections.

The authors of *Finding Out* address LGBT studies through the lenses of four primary topics: history, politics, literature and the arts, and the media. Those four sections are then subdivided into chapters, making the volume easy to use. Each chapter offers a substantial list of readings and references to support the content — from Plato’s *Symposium* to the research of Alfred Kinsey to modern films, blogs, literature, and art — as well as suggested discussion questions for reflection and further exploration.

What makes this book stand out is the breadth of its scope and the steady hand the authors bring to mundane and controversial topics alike. Many other books in LGBT studies address one or several of these topics, but few provide such a solid introduction to the full range of the LGBT experience. In addition, emotionally charged topics, such as censorship and the causes of homosexuality, are presented with a refreshing level of objectivity that does not require readers to take sides. Furthermore, an even balance of coverage is maintained for each of the letters of “LGBT,” a welcome turn in a body of literature that has focused primarily on gays and lesbians.

While each chapter provides a solid overview of its topics, the references embedded in each chapter are the true gems for reference librarians. Diverse and expansive, the references turn previously challenging searches for LGBT information into one- or two-step processes that both librarians and their patrons will appreciate. The book’s index is superb, but *Finding Out*’s one flaw is its glossary, which is too short and contains some definitions too elementary for the intended audience. A deeper discussion of some of the topics would have also made the book even more useful to a wider variety of disciplines, but this is a small quibble.

Finding Out is one book that can be recommended with confidence to librarians, faculty, and patrons alike. Its broad scope, excellent references, and even-handed approach make it a first-rate addition to every library serving a community interested in LGBT studies.

[Kari D. Weaver is an information literacy librarian at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. She is the liaison librarian to the business administration, communication arts, English, and women’s studies departments.]

Ellen Bosman & John P. Bradford (ed. by Robert B. Ridinger), ***GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDERED LITERATURE: A GENRE GUIDE***. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2008. 440p. bibl. index. \$60.00, ISBN 978-1591581949.

Reviewed by Sarah VanGundy

As Jessamyn West once said, “Fiction reveals truths that reality obscures.” Anyone who has ever felt marginalized or different, only to recognize themselves and their experiences in a good book, knows how important finding the right book at the right time can be.

This volume from the Genreflecting Series can help librarians and readers connect with books that reveal the truths they seek. It fills a major gap in readers’ advisory literature by focusing on literature for adults that is “written by GLBT authors, or with GLBT protagonists or themes” (p.3). Public librarians are the most obvious audience for this reference work, but school and academic librarians serving GLBT populations will also find it a valuable resource.

Part I consists of three chapters; the first introduces the topic, the second provides a comprehensive history of gay and lesbian literature, and the third covers collection development and readers’ advisory issues related to GLBT literature. I found Part I to be the most useful part of the book, as it contextualizes this broad category of fiction in a very coherent way and points to excellent resources for further information.

Part II lists works of fiction, biography, and drama, selected according to the following criteria: award status (mostly GLBT awards), GLBT content, availability, publishing date

(mostly after 1969), English language publication, age appropriateness for adults (books of teen interest are indicated with a "teen" symbol), and racial and cultural diversity. Literature by and about lesbian and bisexual women is particularly well represented. Many women may appreciate the books included for their frank explorations of broad issues of gender construction and identity.

The listings are organized into chapters, each focused on a particular genre or type of literature, including Classics, General Fiction, Coming Out, HIV/AIDS and Other Health Issues, Historical Fiction, Romance, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Horror Fiction, Mystery and Crime, Comics and Graphic Novels, Drama, and Life Stories. Each chapter begins with a definition of the genre or category, description and characteristics of the genre, a section on issues for the readers' advisor, and a note on organization.

Part III is an extensive, partially annotated bibliography of useful books, journals, databases, Internet resources, publishers, and articles, followed by an author/title index and a subject index. Most of the book's layout is very intuitive, but I found the organization of titles within the chapters a bit confusing because it varies from chapter to chapter.

On the whole, this book admirably provides one of the first (if not the first) comprehensive readers' advisory reference works focused on adult GLBT literature. I highly recommend this title to librarians and readers interested in understanding and exploring this category of literature.

[Sarah VanGundy is a reference and instruction librarian at Purchase College, State University of New York, in Purchase, NY. She is the library's subject selector for anthropology, new media, and lesbian and gay studies.]

POLITICS

Joyce Gelb & Marian Lief Palley, eds., *WOMEN AND POLITICS AROUND THE WORLD: A COMPARATIVE HISTORY AND SURVEY*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2009. 657p. \$195.00, ISBN 978-1851099887.

Reviewed by Nancy M. Lewis

Politics. Some will say this is a subject not to talk about in polite society. But many others will tell you that discussing politics is a vital first step to making important changes in women's lives.

Women and Politics Around the World highlights the important connections between women's political and economic participation and improvements in women's status. In the first of the two volumes, editors Gelb and Palley have gathered a talented group of scholars to provide overviews of issues that affect women and cut across nations, including political development, economic development, microfinance, education, globalization, sexual rights, reproductive health, breastfeeding, child care, trafficking, and violence. In the second volume, equally impressive scholars provide entries with both historical and current perspectives on women's political and economic status in twenty-one individual countries.

This dual approach is very effective, providing useful country-specific analysis as well as in-depth background on transnational issues. It is surprising, however, that the overview volume does not include a chapter on the environment, especially given the impact on women of deforestation, agricultural practices, and limited access to water resources. In the volume on spe-

cific countries, the fact that only one chapter is dedicated to all the Middle Eastern and North African countries is a great weakness, especially since all the other countries included are treated individually. There are many differences in the political and economic circumstances of women in such countries as Israel, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan, and it would be useful to have these countries covered separately. And the general overview of education, in its section covering the U.S.A., would benefit from the inclusion of the experiences of women of different races.

There are other works that provide similar coverage, such as *Women's Roles and Statuses the World Over* (2006), which covers sixteen countries not in this set, and the *Greenwood Encyclopedia of Women's Issues Worldwide* (2003), which covers most countries; but neither of those provides the depth that this one does. It is of note, though, that *Women and Politics Around the World* covers only two African countries, while *Women Political Leaders in Africa* (2008) provides similar depth for most countries on the continent.

Women and Politics Around the World provides thoughtful, scholarly, and accessible analysis, much of which is not easily located elsewhere in such breadth. I highly recommend this title for any institutions with undergraduate programs in women's studies, political science, or international affairs.

[Nancy M. Lewis is the women's studies librarian and head of reference for the Raymond H. Fogler Library, as well as adjunct faculty in women's studies, at the University of Maine.]

SCIENCE FICTION

Robin Anne Reid, ed., **WOMEN IN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY**. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2009. 2 vols. 748p. bibl. index. \$249.95, ISBN 978-0313335891.

Reviewed by Sharon Ladenson

How do race, class, gender, and age shape the themes of fantasy and science fiction texts? What are women's major contributions to the development of fantasy films during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries? How are girls and girlhood depicted in science fiction and fantasy media? Developed for general readers, *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy* is an effective reference guide for finding answers to these and many other questions.

Historical and international in scope, the two-volume encyclopedia provides extensive and readable background on a wide range of topics and media. Historical overview essays in the first volume explore medieval mythological influences and nineteenth-century fiction and poetry; chapters focusing on twentieth-century science fiction and fantasy novels, short fiction, genre poetry, film, comics, and television follow. Separate chapters cover fantasy and science fiction themes in diverse media, such as music, gaming, and anime and manga. The first volume also explores various theoretical, social, and literary science fiction and fantasy topics, such as the development of sexual identities; intersections of race, class, age, and gender; the changing nature of female characters and heroes; fantasy and the development of feminist spirituality; and the impact of women's status in the scientific community on science fiction. Additional essays focus on the social and historical development of children's and young

adult fantasy and science fiction; notable feminist science fiction and fantasy conventions and awards; women's contributions to fandom movements; and the depiction of girls in fantasy and science fiction texts and media.

The second volume includes more than two hundred alphabetically arranged entries covering a wide variety of critical concepts and authors. The entries here are more concise than the essays in the first volume, but they are also informative and clearly written. This volume begins with the complete list of the alphabetically ordered entries, followed by another list grouping them by topic (such as "Fans and Fandom," "Ethnicity and Race," and "Visual Media," among others). Volume 2 also includes an extensive (yet selected) bibliography of more than two hundred scholarly sources, including bibliographies, reference books, and theoretical and critical works.

The text is readable and engaging, and the authors include appropriate background and clearly define all concepts and terminology. Boldface text provides effective cross-references throughout each volume. For example, the entry on author Margaret Atwood appropriately describes the subject of her critical work, *The Handmaid's Tale*, as a dystopia. The term **dystopia** appears in bold, directing the reader to an entire entry called "Dystopias." Both the essays in the first volume and the entries in the second include selected lists of suggested readings. As a unique, well-researched, and clearly written reference tool, *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy* is highly recommended for college and university library collections.

[Sharon Ladenson is the gender studies and communications librarian at Michigan State University.]



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SEX WORK

Melissa Hope Ditmore, ed., **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PROSTITUTION AND SEX WORK**. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2006. 2 vols. 782p. bibl. index. \$225.00, ISBN 978-0313329685.

Reviewed by Michelle M. Martínez

Sex sells, and this time the product is worth buying. The *Encyclopedia of Prostitution and Sex Work* (a two-volume set) is the first reference work of its kind, successfully bringing together 341 entries about prostitution worldwide, with a heavy focus on the United States and a user-friendly format and timeline for easy reference. Other encyclopedias focus on sex, rather than on prostitution and sex work, as a main subject. Appendices at the end of the second volume include historical accounts, poems and lyrics, documents by sex workers, and legal documents

and commentary referred to in the work or important to the topic. A selected bibliography of print and non-print sources precedes a lengthy and well-organized index.

Entries from "Abolition" to "Zola, Émile" range in depth and focus and cover a wide array of topics. Each of the alphabetically arranged entries offers suggestions for further reading and, if pertinent, cross-references to other entries. Also accompanying certain entries are sidebars giving information from primary resources, as well as black-and-white images that enhance the text. The intelligent and interesting entries cover arts and culture; concepts, such as free love and misogyny; crime; health and medicine; institutions and organizations; legal issues and statutes; people, such as Jack the Ripper and Phryne, a famous Greek courtesan; "personnel and phenomena," such as pimps and white slavery, respectively; places and eras; and religion, from ancient times to the present. Each volume begins with a topical list of the entries. Finally, there is biographical information about the editor, advisors, and contributors so that users can know who put this resource together and what sort of authority they have either in the field generally or on the particular topic about which they wrote. It's worth noting that the advisors include Jo Doezenia, sex worker and board member of the Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP); Helen Self, legal scholar and feminist activist; and Priscilla Alexander, co-founder and coordinator of the National Task Force on Prostitution.

Prostitution and sex work are still taboo subjects in just about every society. This encyclopedia will help mitigate the stereotypes and blatant negativity that surround sex issues by

enlightening scholars, researchers, and laypeople on this important subject.

Remaining entirely neutral while discussing sex, sex work, and prostitution is a difficult thing to do — these topics evoke strong reactions, often negative ones, among the general public. Positive articles that enlighten readers about the pain, suffering, and injustice done to those in this field of work go a step further to dispel myths and misinformation and help previously silenced voices to be heard. This encyclopedia is an absolutely essential reference work, especially for those academic libraries that support women/gender studies, sociology, human sexuality, psychology, and other related courses of study for undergraduates and beyond.

[Michelle Martinez has an M.A. in English & an M.S. in library science. She is currently a reference librarian and English & literature bibliographer at the Newton Gresham Library on the campus of Sam Houston State University.]

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Office on Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, **THE HEALTHY WOMAN: A COMPLETE GUIDE FOR ALL AGES**. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2008. 518p. bibl. index. pap., \$24.95, ISBN 978-0160771835.

Reviewed by Diane Bruxvoort

In this clearly written guide for women who wish to take charge of their own health, the DHHS Office on Women's Health takes the reader through nineteen chapters on specific health problems, ranging from auto-

immune diseases to violence against women, and four chapters on general topics such as nutrition and pain. Each chapter describes a disease (e.g., Type 2 diabetes), a category of disease (e.g., blood disorders), or a health issue (e.g., pregnancy), along with risk factors, symptoms, and treatments; but the focus is on learning what steps a woman can take to improve her own health and health care. Full-color pictures, charts and diagrams, and direct and jargon-free language help to provide easy-to-understand information. Each chapter ends with a section called "One Woman's Story," an account of how one woman dealt with the disease under discussion, and another called "For More Information," which provides contact information and websites for a variety of pertinent medical institutes, associations, and foundations.

The Healthy Woman is provided by the Office on Women's Health to promote health equity for women and girls by motivating behavior change through the dissemination of health information. Although a bibliography, broken down by category, and a comprehensive index make the volume useful as a reference tool, the individual consumer is the target audience. Women of all ages would benefit from using this guide to get basic information on maintaining a healthy lifestyle and dealing proactively with health issues. Recommended for personal use and small consumer-health collections.

[Diane Bruxvoort is the associate dean for collection services at the University of Houston Libraries.]

WOMEN'S HISTORY

Carol Berkin, Margaret S. Crocco, & Barbara Winslow, eds., *CLIO IN THE CLASSROOM: A GUIDE FOR TEACHING U.S. WOMEN'S HISTORY*. Oxford, U.K.: Oxford University Press, 2009. 318p. index. \$24.95, ISBN 978-0195320138.

Reviewed by Nina Clements

Judging by the eighteen essays in this well-organized volume, Clio, the muse of history, must have been extraordinarily practical. Theory and practice converge in *Clio in the Classroom*, which is indeed, as its subtitle proclaims, a guide for teachers and students of women's history in both K-12 and higher education. But it's also much, much more. It is a primer on U.S. women's history, a meditation on feminist and cooperative learning practices in the classroom, and a history of the development of women's history as a discipline in the U.S. Designed for teachers and students of women's history (novices and veterans alike), it provides practical suggestions and inspiration to instructors in a variety of settings, including instructional librarians. Many of the ideas found here would be helpful to teachers of U.S. history survey courses as well as courses that focus on specific aspects of women's history.

The essays in this book propose a new way of teaching women's history

(and offer very specific examples of how to do this), beyond the traditional "contribution" approach, which usually entails an isolated lecture or reading assignment about a few famous ladies and the vote. According to the introduction, "[W]omen's history should do more than add women to traditional male stories. Ultimately it changes the story of the American past, challenging facile conclusions reached by leaving out half the population" (p.4). These essays also readily acknowledge

teaching women's history for the first time and those who have not done so regularly. These overviews are not merely dry chronologies — they challenge assumptions and ideas about women that have been taught in history classes. For example, in Chapter 2, "Women in Nineteenth-Century America," Cindy R. Lobel attacks the myth of the isolated plantation mistress and contrasts her tasks and responsibilities with those of women slaves who lived on the same property. In some

ways, these chapters are the foundation of the book — they are informative and also serve as examples of teaching by comparison, a practice encouraged throughout the book.

Part II, "Conceptualizing Issues in U.S. Women's History," addresses popular concepts and themes that have emerged in U.S. women's history, such as medicine, sexuality, and radicalism. These nine chapters use case

studies to offer in-depth perspectives as well as many teaching strategies. Many offer suggestions for framing these concepts and incorporating them into the classroom. For example, in Chapter 4, "Conceptualizing U.S. Women's History through the History of Medicine," Rebecca Tannenbaum suggests that "when teaching the colonial era in a survey or early America class, the history of childbirth is particularly effective in addressing issues of social control, social hierarchy, and dissent" (p.78). Jennifer Scanlon, writing about consumerism in Chapter 7, urges teachers



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the impossibility of a *single* narrative of women in U.S. history and aim to present a multitude of suggestions for incorporating these voices into the classroom.

The book is divided into four parts that could stand independently, although the essays echo and respond to each other so effectively that the book as a whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Notes are conveniently listed at the end of each essay for ease of use.

Part I, "Three Eras of U.S. Women's History," is a succinct review of women's history from the colonial era. This is especially helpful for those

and students to resist “the dichotomy of women as historical actors, engaged in consumer culture’s activities, and women as passive recipients of the messages of manufacturers, advertisers, and the men in their individual lives” (p.124). She offers ideas for classroom activities designed to help students locate the “absent women” in women’s magazines and advertisements (p.128).

Although this book’s essays focus explicitly on women’s history rather than gender history, they do discuss the triumvirate of race, class, and gender. Erica Ball argues in Chapter 9 that in order to integrate the stories of women and other “invisible” groups into the narrative of U.S. history, “historians and teachers must pay attention to the ways race, class, and gender work together,” which is something that this book as a whole accomplishes (p.150). Even more to the point, she provides an example of how to do this with a classroom discussion addressing media coverage of the 2008 presidential election and the media’s insistence that women supported Clinton and African Americans supported Obama (p.150). This type of discussion is designed to help students realize “that categories of identification like race, class, and gender [are] neither competing nor additive, but instead, thoroughly integrated into an individual’s overall sense of self” (p.150).

Part III, “Teaching and Learning Women’s History: Strategies and Resources,” is the strongest and most useful section. Like the chapters in Part II, the five here are case studies, but with a more explicit emphasis on pedagogy and teaching tools. The authors of these essays tell their readers what they tried, what worked, and what didn’t — it has the feel of a friendly conversation or conference roundtable on peda-

gogy. Chapter 14, “Teaching Women’s History with Visual Images,” by Tracy Weiss, successfully explains the pedagogy of using images in the classroom, while offering very specific assignments and strategies for classroom activities. Weiss’s approach is certainly “student-centered,” a theme throughout the book (p.7). The essays in this section are simply good pedagogy — they could be employed by any history teacher. What’s more, the notes include many examples of Web-based primary sources and lesson ideas that can be used to supplement existing syllabi.

Part IV, “What We Know (and Don’t Know) About Teaching Women’s History,” is perhaps the weakest part of the book and contains only a single essay: “What Educational Research Says about Teaching and Learning Women’s History.” Essentially: not much. Ending with this call for more educational research saps some of the power of the book, the strength of which lies in the application of strategies and techniques.

Slightly more than nine pages of “Additional Resources,” including books, journal articles and book chapters, and websites, follow the essays. Many of the websites are collections of primary sources and are current — an excellent resource for both subject librarians and classroom instructors.

This work includes the occasional generalization, difficult to avoid in a volume that moves across so much space and time. Although the introduction acknowledges the impossibility of being completely comprehensive, it might have been helpful if the book had included case studies about women who are not white or African American. Introductions to each of the book’s parts would also be helpful, especially for those who plan/need to use this book as a reference. In some ways the distinction between “conceptualizing

issues in U.S. women’s history” in Part II and the teaching and learning strategies of Part III seems artificial. This is an extremely small quibble, however.

“Teachers can better prepare students for the twenty-first century,” writes Mary E. Frederickson in Chapter 12, “by giving them access to a history that is as complex and interconnected as the society in which they live and work” (p.201). *Clio in the Classroom* is an attempt to do just that. This book will be a valuable resource to any instructor who teaches women’s history. Although it is specific to U.S. women’s history, many of the pedagogical approaches and suggested resources could be incorporated into a variety of instructional settings.

[Nina Clements works as a librarian and technology consultant at Kenyon College and lives in Gambier, Ohio.]

WOMEN’S RIGHTS

Lenora M. Lapidus, Emily J. Martin, & Namita Luthra, ***THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN: THE AUTHORITY ACU GUIDE TO WOMEN’S RIGHTS***, 4th ed. New York: New York University Press, 2009. 412p. \$75.00, ISBN 978-0814752302; pap., \$19.00, ISBN 978-0814752296.

Reviewed by Sherri L. Barnes

When I agreed to review the fourth edition of this handbook, my first thought was of the recently passed (January 29, 2009) Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which extends the statute of limitations for filing a lawsuit claiming pay discrimination. Since this particular women’s rights issue (following the Supreme Court case *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.*, 550 U.S. 618 [2007]) was so recently resolved, you won’t find coverage of it in this

volume. The ACLU Women's Rights Project, which is responsible for the guide, focuses on "enforcing rights that are already established ... [and] expanding interpretations of laws so as to provide greater protection" (p.xvi).

Nonetheless, coverage of one of the fundamental areas in which women have been fighting for equality — employment — is substantial in this book, with one of the eleven chapters devoted to "Employment: Discrimination and Parenting Issues." Some of the other chapters are "Education," "Violence Against Women," "Reproductive Freedom," "Family Law," "The Criminal Justice System," "Housing," and "Public Accommodations and Private Clubs." Chapters new to this edition are "Trafficking and Forced Labor of Women Workers" and "TANF [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families]/Welfare." The first chapter, "Constitutional Rights: Equal Protection," provides a wonderful overview of the legal framework within which many challenges to gender inequality are raised

— the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Student researchers will find significant coverage of other trendy topics within these chapters. For instance, legal information related to women offenders, including the parental and reproductive rights of incarcerated mothers, is covered in the chapter on the criminal justice system, as is information about illegal sex work. Same-sex and transgender issues related to marriage, civil unions, and domestic partnerships are addressed in the chapter on family law. The authors are also aware of the roles that race, class, and citizenship play in the realization of rights for all women.

Each chapter is set up in a question-and-answer format, and subheadings are included as appropriate (e.g., "Adoption" is a subsection within "Family Law"). There are extensive cited references to case law and other primary sources. Unlike the previous edition, this one has an index, although it would be more useful if sub-

headings were used in cases where there is a long string of page numbers after a main heading.

The ACLU's guiding principle is that "an informed citizenry is the best guarantee that the government will respect individual liberties" (p.ix). The authors state accordingly that they "hope that this book will help to provide basic information about the legal principles applicable to this area of law and will, as well, suggest arguments that you might make on your own behalf to secure your rights" (p.xii). Given its purpose and audience (general), the strengths of this handbook are that it is enormously practical and accessible. Even the brief description of the court system is extremely easy to understand. I'd recommend it not just for academic and public libraries, but also for personal libraries, especially if there are young women in the household.

[Sherri L. Barnes is the feminist studies librarian at the library of the University of California, Santa Barbara.]



Miriam Greenwald

PERIODICAL NOTES

[Note: See our online quarterly publication, *Feminist Periodicals: A Current Listing of Contents*, for information about more than 150 women-related journals: <http://womenst.library.wisc.edu/publications/feminist-periodicals.html>.]

NEW OR NEWLY DISCOVERED PERIODICALS

BLACK WOMEN, GENDER & FAMILIES. 2007– .

Editor: Jennifer F. Hamer. Publisher: University of Illinois Press in collaboration with the African American Studies and Research Program. Peer-reviewed. ISSN: 1935-2743. Frequency: 2/yr. Subscriptions: individuals, print only, \$35.00; students, print only, \$15.00; institutions, print only, \$70.00; institutions, online only (through Project MUSE), \$70.00; print + online, \$84.00. Outside U.S., \$10.00 postage. Single issues: \$15.00. Subscribe at <http://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/bwgf/subscription.html>

“BWGF emphasizes the study of Black women, gender, families, and communities. The journal welcomes research and theoretical submissions in history, sociology, anthropology, social psychology, education, economics, political science, and English that are framed by Black Women’s Studies perspectives and a policy or social analysis. Interdisciplinary, comparative, and transnational studies of the African Diaspora and other women, families, and communities of color are also encouraged.”

Volume 1, Number 1 (Spring 2007) focused on “The State of Black Women’s Studies,” with the following articles: “African American Women and Their Communities in the Twentieth Century: The Foundation and Future of Black Women’s Studies,” by Darlene Clark Hine; “Building a Home for Black Women’s Studies,” by Elizabeth Cole & Nesha Z. Hanniff; “Where’s the Violence? The Promise and Perils of Teaching Women of Color Studies,” by Grace Chang; “Popular Sentiments and Black Women’s Studies: The Scholarly and Experiential Divide,” by Catherine Squires; and “Love and Violence/Maternity and Death: Black Feminism and the Politics of Reading (Un)representability,” by Sara Clarke Kaplan.

The most recent issue (Volume 3, Number 1, Spring 2009) offers perspectives on “Rural Women, Children, and Families of Color in U.S. and Global Communities,” including these: “Rural Women and the Varieties of Black Politics in Bahia, Brazil,” by Stephen Selka; “An Issue of Environmental Justice: Understanding the Relationship

among HIV/AIDS Infection in Women, Water Distribution, and Global Investment in Rural Sub-Saharan Africa,” by Nghana Lewis; “Resistance Begins at Home: The Black Family and Lessons in Survival and Subversion in Jim Crow Mississippi,” by Stephen A. Berrey; and “‘Well I just generally be[e]s the president of everything’: Rural Black Women’s Empowerment through South Carolina Home Demonstration Activities,” by Carmen V. Harris.

FILMS FOR THE FEMINIST CLASSROOM. 2009– .

Founding editor: Deanna Utroske. Editorial collective: Ariella Rotramel & Julie Ann Salthouse. Hosted by the Rutgers-based editorial offices of *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*. Online at http://www.signs.rutgers.edu/ffc_home.html. Email: ffc@signs.rutgers.edu; U.S. mail: c/o SIGNS, Rutgers University, 8 Voorhees Chapel, 5 Chapel Drive, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

“FFC publishes film reviews that provide a critical assessment of the value of films as pedagogical tools in the feminist classroom. Interviews with directors and producers of feminist film are also included in FFC issues. FFC endeavors to become a dynamic resource for feminist teachers.”

What a fabulous resource! Inaugural issue 1.1 (Spring 2009), in thirteen reviews, offers feminist critiques of twenty-one films, ranging from “sleeper hit” *Slumdog Millionaire* (Fox Searchlight) to the locally produced *Living on the Fault Line, Where Race and Family Meet* (Community Family Media of Montpelier, Vermont), as well as works from Women Make Movies, Cinema Guild, THINKFilm, Seventh Art, Media Education Foundation, AfroLez Productions, and others. Each article makes insightful suggestions for discussing the reviewed film(s) in the classroom. Promised in 1.2 (Fall 2009): “An interview with Abigail Disney, producer of *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* (dir. Gini Reticker, 2008), a film about the Liberian women who successfully organized to end a civil war and whose impact on Liberian politics includes helping bring about the election of President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf. Also featured are reviews of *Joy Nash’s Fat Rants*, *Tillie Olsen — A Heart in Action*, *Barbie Nation*, *Dreamworlds 3*, and *Girls Rock! The Movie*.” Proposals for future reviews are invited.

GIRLHOOD STUDIES: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL. 2008– .

Editors-in-chief: Claudia Mitchell & Jacqueline Reid-Walsh (co-founder & co-editor Jacqueline Kirk “was killed in an attack in Afghanistan on August 13, 2008, just as [the] inaugural issue of the journal was to go to

press"). Publisher: Berghahn Journals. ISSN: 1938 (print), 1938-8322 (online, through IngentaConnect). Frequency: 2/yr. (one issue published in Volume 1, 2008; two issues in Volume 2, 2009; double issue planned for Volume 3, 2010).

"The mission of the journal is to bring together contributions from and initiate dialogue among perspectives ranging from medical and legal practice, ethnographic inquiry, philosophical reflection, historical investigations, literary, cultural and media research to curriculum design and policy-making. Topics addressed within the journal include girls and schooling, girls and feminism, girls and sexuality, girlhood in the context of Boyhood Studies, girls and new media and popular culture, representation of girls in different media, histories of girlhood, girls and development."

The late Jackie Kirk was involved with others in establishing schools for girls in Afghanistan at the time of her death, which is reported to have been caused "by the Taliban in an ambush on their car." The journal is planning, for 2010, a special double issue in Kirk's honor. The three issues published so far cover vast territory, as this sampling of article titles shows: "Learning to Lead: Challenging Girls in Rural Chinese Schools," by Heidi Ross & Lei Wang; "To Laugh or Not to Laugh? Performing Girlhood through Humor," by Dafna Lemish & Shiri Reznik; "Listening to Youth: The Experiences of Young Women in Northern Uganda," by Jenny Perlman Robinson; "Coming of Age with Proctor & Gamble Beimgirl.com and the Commodification of Puberty," by Sharon R. Mazzarella; "Nobody, Somebody, Everybody: Ballet, Girlhood, Class, Femininity and Comics in 1950s Britain," by Mel Gibson; "The Embodiment of Friendship, Power, and Marginalization in a Multi-Ethnic, Multi-Class Preadolescent U.S. Girls' Peer Group," by Marjorie Harness Goodwin; "Living in a Hybrid Material World: Girls, Ethnicity and Mediated Doll Products," by Angharad N. Valdivia; "Girl Photographers Take Us into Their Bedrooms," by Maureen St. John Ward.

JOURNAL OF WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSICAL THERAPY. 1976(?)–. Editor-in-chief: Nancy C. Rich. Official publication of the Section on Women's Health of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Publisher: Orthopaedic Section of APTA. ISSN: 1556-6803. Frequency: 3/yr. Subscriptions: included in membership in the Section on Women's Health; nonmembers: \$70.00 in U.S.; \$75.00 elsewhere (airmail). Section on Women's Health, APTA, P.O. Box 327, Alexandria, VA 22313; website: <http://www.womenshealthapta.org/pubs/journal.cfm>

Is physical therapy a feminist issue? It's certainly a field in which women's concerns can be very different from men's,

as a look through a couple of issues of this professional journal makes clear; for instance, in just the two examined here (Winter 2008 and Spring 2009), there is information about pregnancy and posture, post-partum restrengthening of abdominal muscles, urinary incontinence, pelvic pain, menstrual and menopausal problems, breast reconstruction after mastectomy, osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and sexual function. And although the journal is meant for a professional PT audience, a book review in one issue led to my personal purchase of *Age-Perfect Pilates*, which the reviewer recommended for the general population.

KÜLTÜR VE SIYASETTE FEMINIST YAKLAŞIMLAR (FEMINIST APPROACHES IN CULTURE AND POLITICS). 2006–. ISSN: 1307-0932. Published in Istanbul. In Turkish only, online at <http://www.feministyaklasimlar.org/>.

LATINITAS MAGAZINES. 2003–. Co-founders: Alicia Rascon & Laura Donnelly. Free; online only at <http://www.latinitasmagazine.org>.

"Latinitas is a non-profit organization focused on informing, entertaining, and inspiring young Latinas to grow into healthy, confident, and successful adults." Students at the University of Texas at Austin came up with the idea in 2002 and formed first a campus organization and then the non-profit corporation. Two digital periodicals were started in 2003 and 2004, respectively: **LATINITAS: THE FIRST DIGITAL MAGAZINE MADE FOR AND BY YOUNG LATINAS** (<http://www.latinitasmagazine.org/girls/>), for the middle-school set, and **TEEN LATINITAS: THE FIRST MAGAZINE BY AND FOR LATINA TEENS!** (<http://www.latinitasmagazine.org/teens/>). Currently in the "Her Story" column of the girls' magazine is a short profile of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor; in the teen magazine, there's a somewhat longer article about her, with quotes from college students and more focus on the controversies surrounding her nomination and approval. There's a lot more in each periodical, with some overlap between them.

TRIVIA: VOICES OF FEMINISM. 2004–. Editor: Lisa Weil. Web publisher: Susan Kullmann. Frequency: 2/yr intended (once or twice per year so far). Free; online only; <http://www.triviavoices.net>.

Origins of the title: "TRIVIA, deriving from 'tri-via' (crossroads), was one of the names of the Triple Goddess. Recognizing that what is of primary importance in women's

lives tends to be relegated to the margins of patriarchal history and thought, dismissed as 'trivial,' we conceive *TRIVIA: Voices of Feminism* as a place at the crossroads where women's ideas can assume their original power and significance."

The original, print incarnation of this periodical was *Trivia: A Journal of Ideas*, which ran from 1982 to 1995; tables of contents from those issues are archived on the current site, and the back issues can be ordered. Every issue of the new version is available on the website.

Partial contents of Issue 9, Spring Equinox, March 2009 ("Thinking about Goddesses"): "Vulture Medicine" and "Augury," poems by Deena Metzger; "When Hens Were Flying and God Was Not Yet Born," by Luciana Percovich; "Canoeing our Way Back to the Divine Feminine in Taíno Spirituality," by Marianela Medrano-Marra; "Goddess is Metaformic," by Judy Grahn; "What is Goddess? Towards an Ontology of Women Giving Birth..." by Nané Ariadne Jordan; "Song of Lilith," by Liliana Kleiner.

The website provides detailed submission guidelines. "We publish feminist writing in the form of literary essays, experimental prose, poetry, translations, and reviews. We encourage women writers to take risks with language and forms so as to give their ideas the most original and vital expression possible. Our larger purpose is to foster a body of rigorous, creative and independent feminist thought."

WO! MAGAZINE. 2006–2007. Editor: Anna Greer. Five issues; free; online only; <http://wo-magazine.com/>.

"Wo! Magazine is an experiment in alternatives to the current women's magazines in Australia. It is a feminist project intent on creating and providing something interesting that isn't focussed on commercial mass culture and giving women hang ups about their bodies and sexuality... Wo! explores both global and Australian issues and will have a focus on alternative cultures and current affairs. What Wo! isn't is gossip, celebrity-focussed, does-he-love-me, weight-obsessed drivel."

Production seems to have stalled or stopped completely in 2007, but the five issues published are still there to be read. Partial contents: in Issue 1 ("Raunch"), "Naomi Kazzi laments the proliferation of American pop culture raunch, infiltrating televisions and magazines all over Australia"; "Kim Powell visits Sydney's annual Sexpo and finds that for all our talk of sexual liberation, mainstream sexual mores aren't so risqué"; news about HIV: "Women are fast becoming the face of an epidemic which is spiralling out of control in Papua New Guinea." Issue 2 is a "travel special," with stories from travels in Kenya, China, and Ireland, and news

from Lebanon. Issue 3 lacks a stated theme, but covers the Christian Right in New South Wales, Indonesia's anti-pornography bill, pole dancing, and Sophie Taylor's ten-day silent retreat at a meditation center. "Women of Color Speak Out" is the title of Issue 4, which looks at anti-Muslim sentiment in Australia, the everyday life of women who wear the *hijab*, and the feminist history of Islam; and Issue 5 takes on reproductive choice, gender-motivated violence, war, and men's roles in feminism.

SPECIAL ISSUES OF PERIODICALS

AFRICAN AND ASIAN STUDIES v.7, no.4, 2008:

Special issue: "Researching African Women and Gender Studies: New Social Science Perspectives." Editor: Tukumbi Lumumba-Kasongo. Publisher: Brill. ISSN: 1569-2094 (print); 1569-2108 (electronic).

Partial contents: "African Women Scientists and the Politics of Location: The Case of Four Sierra Leonean Women Scientists," by Josephine Beoku-Betts; "African Women in the New Diaspora: Transnationalism and the (Re) Creation of Home," by Mary Johnson Osirim; "Collective Activism: The Domestic Violence Bill becoming Law in Ghana," by Akosua Adomako Ampofo; "Outras Vozes: Women's Writings in Lusophone Africa," by Kathleen Sheldon & Isabel P.B. Fêo Rodrigues; "Facing Challenges and Pioneering Feminist and Gender Studies: Women in Post-colonial and Today's Maghrib," by Fatima Sadiqi; "Senegalese Women and the Cyber Café: Online Dating and Aspirations of Transnational Migration in Ziguinchor," by Emilie Venables; "'Bottom Power': Theorizing Feminism and the Women's Movement in Sierra Leone (1981–2007)," by Lynda R. Day; "Analysing Males in Africa: Certain Useful Elements in Considering Ruling Masculinities," by Kopano Ratele; "Changing Women's Exclusion from Politics: Examples from Southern Africa," by Amanda Gouws.

COMMUNICATION REVIEW v.11, no.3, July 2008:

Special issue: "Feminist Media Studies and the Sexuality Debates" (related to follow-up on the Barnard Conference on Women, 1982) Issue editors: Andrea Press & Arlene Stein. Publisher: Taylor & Francis. ISSN: 1071-4421 (print); 1547-7487 (online).

Partial contents: "Looking Backward: Barnard and its Legacies," by Lynn Comella; "Updating the Sex 'Wars': Political Challenges to Liberationism," by Carla Freccero; "Stray Thoughts on Transgender Feminism and the Barnard Conference on Women," by Susan Stryker; "Slow Love," by Lisa Henderson; "Pornographic Permutations," by Angela

McRobbie; "Sexual Politics from Barnard to Las Vegas," by Barbara Brents; "Porn and Me(n): Sexual Morality, Objectification, and Religion at the Wheelock Anti-Pornography Conference," by Chris Boulton; "The Necessary Revolution: Sex-Positive Feminism in the Post-Barnard Era," by Carol Queen & Lynn Comella.

JOURNAL OF PSYCHOACTIVE DRUGS SARC Supplement No. 5, November 2008: "California Substance Abuse Research Consortium 2007: A Focus on Women." Supplement editors: Beth Rutkowski, Thomas Freese, & Richard Rawson. Publisher: Haight Ashbury Publications. ISSN: 0279-1072. Table of contents and sample article available at <http://www.journalofpsychoactivedrugs.com/Tableofcontents/sarc5.html>

Partial contents: "From Generic to Gender-Responsive Treatment: Changes in Social Policies, Treatment Services, and Outcomes of Women in Substance Abuse Treatment," by Christine E. Grella; "Bar Patronage and Motivational Predictors of Drinking in the San Francisco Bay Area: Gender and Sexual Identity Differences," by Karen Trocki & Laurie Drabble; "Tobacco-Related Practices and Policies in Residential Perinatal Drug Treatment Programs," by Martha A. Jessup & Yeonsu Song; "Women and Addiction: A Trauma-Informed Approach," by Stephanie S. Covington; "Childhood Adverse Events and Methamphetamine Use Among Men and Women," by Nena Messina et al.; "Substance Abuse Among Native Hawaiian Women in the United States: A Review of Current Literature and Recommendations for Future Research," by Van M. Ta & TeChieh Chen.

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS v. 6, no. 3, July 2008: Special issue: "The Descriptive and Substantive Representation of Women." Issue editors: Karen Celis & Sarah Childs. Publisher: Oxford University Press Journals. ISSN: 0031-2290. Available online to licensed users through ProQuest Research Library and Social Sciences Full Text.

Partial contents: "Women 'Leaders' in Local Government in the UK," by Catherine Bochel & Hugh Bochel; "The Downside of Gender Quotas? Institutional Constraints on Women in Mexican State Legislatures," by Par Zetterberg; "Critical Acts without a Critical Mass: The Substantive Representation of Women in the Turkish Parliament," by Ayse Gunes Ayata & Fatma Tutuncu; "Is the Mere Presence of a Strong Female Candidate Enough to Increase the Substantive Representation of Women?" by Rainbow Murray; "Civil Society Participation in EU Gender Policy-Making: Framing Strategies and Institutional Constraints," by Lise

Rolandsen Agustin; "Enhancing the Substantive Representation of Women: Lessons from Transitions to Democracy," by Georgina Waylen.

SOUTHERN JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY Supplement from Spindel Conference 2007, Volume 46, 2008: "Global Feminist Ethics and Politics." Supplement editor: Sarah Clark Miller. Publisher: Department of Philosophy, University of Memphis. ISSN: 0038-4283. Journal information and supplement table of contents online at <http://philosophy.memphis.edu/sjp/sjp.htm>

Partial contents: "Military Intervention and the Ethics of Care," by Virginia Held (Comments: "Military Intervention in Two Registers," by Bat-Ami Bar On); "Advocacy, Negotiation, and the Politics of Unknowing," by Lorraine Code (Comments: "In Search of Tanzania: Are Effective Epistemic Practices Sufficient for Just Epistemic Practices?" by Kristie Dotson); "Multiplicity, Inbetweenness, and the Question of Assimilation," by Mariana Ortega (Comments: "Multiplicitous Subjectivity and the Problem of Assimilation," by Ann Ferguson); "Recognition in Redistribution: Care and Diversity in Global Justice," by Carol C. Gould (Comments: "Care and Human Rights in a Globalized World," by Serena Parekh); "Theory to Practice and Practice to Theory? Lessons from Local NGO Empowerment Projects in Indonesia," by Christine M. Koggel (Comments: "Philosopher's Contribution to the Empowerment of Local Practitioners: A Response to Christine Koggel's 'Theory to Practice and Practice to Theory?'" by Ranjoo Seodu Herr).

TRANSITIONS

Three volumes of the **IRISH FEMINIST REVIEW** were published from 2005 to 2007 by what was then the Women's Studies Centre (WSC) at the National University of Ireland, Galway; and the *Review* was "the only feminist journal published on the island" at that time. The WSC has since been transformed into the Global Women's Studies Programme, and the *Irish Feminist Review* seems to have ceased publication; but its three volumes are distributed as books — with ISBNs — by Syracuse University Press. See <http://www.syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu/subject/nui-galway-women-studies-centre.html> for ordering information. The tables of contents for Volumes 1 and 2 are still listed at http://www.nuigalway.ie/womens_studies/publications/irishfeministreview.html.

○ Compiled by JoAnne Lehman

ITEMS OF NOTE

The Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS) has released a new report entitled ***DATE RAPE CASES AMONG YOUNG WOMEN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD PRACTICES FOR SUPPORT AND PREVENTION***, which summarizes the findings of its transnational investigation on date rape among young women students in Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Malta, and Lithuania. The report provides case studies as well as statistical research data on the unwanted sexual experiences of violence and date rape that exist in young women's relationships within all participating countries. A second level of the report includes recommendations for specific national strategies and policies to address not only the prevalence of date rape, but also the general lack of awareness among young people, relevant authorities, and NGOs. This report is available as a free PDF download at <http://www.medinstgenderstudies.org/?p=1356>. To order a printed copy, contact director Susana Pavlou via email at susana@medinstgenderstudies.org.

Sandra Steingraber's ***THE FALLING AGE OF PUBERTY IN U.S. GIRLS: WHAT WE KNOW, WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW*** is a comprehensive report of the published scientific literature on the timing of puberty in U.S. girls. The report focuses on such topics as pubertal development (in particular, the onset of menstruation, and also the beginning of breast development and the appearance of pubic hair) and outlines nutritional, psychosocial, and environmental factors that contribute to the onset of puberty. A companion ***ADVOCATE'S GUIDE*** is also available, providing a few of the key findings and recommendations of the full length report. The full report is available as a free PDF download at <http://www.breastcancerfund.org/site/pp.asp?c=kwKXLdPaE&b=3291891>. To order a printed copy of the full report, the companion advocate's guide, or both, fill out the online request form at http://www.breastcancerfund.org/site/c.kwKXLdPaE/b.2668373/k.91E/Falling_Age_of_Puberty_Report_Order_Form/apps/ka/ct/contactus.asp?c=kwKXLdPaE&b=2668373&en=9rLLJUPuF5JI

JTMwFcIQK8PIJcILJZMGKfVLcPUH. All orders are free of charge, but a donation of \$1.00 per report and \$.25 per companion guide is recommended for orders of 25 or more. Donate online at https://www.kintera.org/site/c.kwKXLdPaE/b.80228/k.E2AA/Donate_Now/apps/ka/sl/singlepledgebasket.asp?c=kwKXLdPaE&b=80228&en=dlKTI6MKI9IQJ5NMJgKULgN6IoIZJhMYKmJ2JdMOKgK3IsK or by check to the Breast Cancer Fund at 1388 Sutter St., Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94109.

SURFACING: SELECTED PAPERS ON RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISMS AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN'S SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS, an anthology from the 2007 **ARROW** (Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women) symposium, discusses the impact of Catholic, Hindu, and Islamic religious fundamentalism on Asian-Pacific women's sexual and reproductive health and rights. This collection of papers is available from ARROW for US\$5 (plus \$5 postage), either by email at arrow@arrow.po.my or by mail at Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women, No.1 & 2, Jalan Scott, Brickfields, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Find information about all of ARROW's publications at the center's website: <http://arrow.org.my/home/>.

The sixteenth edition of the NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation report, ***WHO DECIDES? THE STATUS OF WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES***, grades all fifty states (from A+ to F) on their laws related to reproductive health care, offering recent statistics, trends analysis, and a section on NARAL's "Prevention First" initiative. (Wisconsin, by the way, gets a D+ from NARAL. Find out why.) Also included is an overview of current state and federal laws in addition to political opinions of key elected officials. The full report is available online at http://www.prochoiceamerica.org/choice-action-center/in_your_state/who-decides/. To request a printed copy, email WhoDecides@ProChoiceAmerica.org.

○ Compiled by Melissa A. Young

BOOKS RECENTLY RECEIVED

AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S LITERATURE. Mitchell, Angelyn and Taylor, Danille K., eds. Cambridge University Press, 2009.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CONTEMPORARY LGBTQ LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES. Nelson, Emmanuel S., ed. Greenwood, 2009.

FAIRY TALES REIMAGINED: ESSAYS ON NEW RETELLINGS. Bobby, Susan Redington, ed. McFarland, 2009.

FEMINIST PEDAGOGY: LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD. Crabtree, Robbin D. and others, eds. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL AID IN AFGHANISTAN: THE POLITICS AND EFFECTS OF INTERVENTION. Abirafeh, Lina. McFarland, 2009.

GETTING REAL: CHALLENGING THE SEXUALISATION OF GIRLS. Reist, Melinda Tankard, ed. Spinifex (Australia), 2009.

GUILTY AT BIRTH: A TRUE STORY. Roman, Noama Malva. iUniverse, 2009.

HARD TIME AT TEHACHAPI: CALIFORNIA'S FIRST WOMEN'S PRISON. Cairns, Kathleen A. University of New Mexico Press, 2009.

JESUS GIRLS: TRUE TALES OF GROWING UP FEMALE AND EVANGELICAL. Notess, Hannah Faith, ed. Cascade; distr. Ingram, 2009.

LESBIAN ROMANCE NOVELS: A HISTORY AND CRITICAL ANALYSIS. Betz, Phyllis M. McFarland, 2009.

LGBTQ AMERICA TODAY: AN ENCYCLOPEDIA. Hawley, John C., ed. Greenwood, 2009.

THE LITTLE DATA BOOK ON GENDER 2009. The World Bank Fix, Richard et al., comps. 2009.

MISSING BODIES: THE POLITICS OF VISIBILITY. Casper, Monica J. and Moore, Lisa Jean. New York University Press, 2009.

MOISTURE OF THE EARTH: MARY ROBINSON, CIVIL RIGHTS & TEXTILE UNION ACTIVIST. Buss, Fran Leeper, ed. and comp. University of Michigan Press, 2009.

MUSLIM WOMEN REFORMERS: INSPIRING VOICES AGAINST OPPRESSION. Lichter, Ida. Prometheus, 2009.

THE NEW WOMAN. Jurgensen, Lynn and others, eds. ABC-CLIO, 2009.

PLAYING WITH THE BOYS: WHY SEPARATE IS NOT EQUAL IN SPORTS. McDonagh, Eileen and Pappano, Laura. Oxford University Press, 2008.

THE POWER OF SHAKTI: 18 PATHWAYS TO IGNITE THE ENERGY OF THE DIVINE WOMAN. Prakasha, Padma Aon. Destiny Books, 2009.

SIDE DISHES: LATINA AMERICAN WOMEN, SEX, AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION. Fitch, Melissa A. Petro, Patrice, ed. Rutgers University Press, 2009.

UNDERSTANDING FEMINISM. Bowden, Peta and Mummery, Jane. Acumen, 2009.

WOMEN'S FICTION AUTHORS: A RESEARCH GUIDE. Vnuk, Rebecca. Libraries Unlimited/ABC-CLIO, 2009.

WOMEN'S ROLES IN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY AMERICA. Smith, Merril D. Greenwood, 2008.

WOMEN WHO KILL MEN: CALIFORNIA COURTS, GENDER, AND THE PRESS. Bakken, Gordon Morris and Farrington, Brenda. University of Nebraska Press, 2009.

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